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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

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Item 13 of the provisional agenda**

COOPERATION WITH OTHER CONVENTIONS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS TO ENHANCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020

Note by the Executive Secretary

INTRODUCTION

1. At its twelfth meeting, the Conference of the Parties, in paragraph 12 of decision XII/6, requested the Executive Secretary to continue to pursue collaboration and partnerships with Parties, entities of the United Nations system, indigenous and local communities and stakeholders from various sectors to support implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. The present note by the Executive Secretary provides a summary of collaboration with other conventions, international organizations, processes and initiatives and their activities relevant to the Convention.

2. Cooperation with other conventions, international organizations and initiatives related to the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety is reported in documents UNEP/CBD/NP/COP-MOP/2/6 and UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/8/6, respectively. A separate note by the Executive Secretary addresses enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions at the national and international levels (UNEP/CBD/COP/13/15).

I. COOPERATION WITH OTHER CONVENTIONS

A. The biodiversity-related conventions

3. This section of the note reports on cooperation among the global biodiversity-related conventions.¹ It includes review of actions undertaken by the secretariats and by the governing bodies of

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¹ Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGR), Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, Especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention), and Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (World Heritage Convention).

the conventions and actions undertaken in the context of the Liaison Group of the Biodiversity-related Conventions (Biodiversity Liaison Group, BLG).

1. *Liaison Group of the Biodiversity-related Conventions*

4. Work undertaken in response to decision XII/6 on enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions is addressed in document UNEP/CBD/COP/13/15 and was reported to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its first meeting.²

5. The tenth and eleventh ordinary meetings of the Liaison Group of the Biodiversity-related Conventions BLG were held in September 2015 and August 2016. The reports of the meetings are available on the BLG webpage.³

6. In line with paragraphs 1 and 2 of decision XII/30 on the financial mechanism, the governing bodies of the biodiversity-related conventions were invited, through the convention secretariats, to provide advice concerning the funding of national priorities in the context of the seventh replenishment period of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund. Advice received is summarized in a note by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/COP/13/12).

2. *Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals*

7. The eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals CMS (CMS COP 11) was held in Quito from 4 to 9 November 2014. CMS COP 11 adopted the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023⁴ under the framework of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) links migratory species priorities to the relevant Aichi Biodiversity Targets and provides an effective way for migratory species targets to be integrated into NBSAPs. In paragraph 15 of resolution 11.10, the COP to the CMS welcomed CBD decision XII/6 and requested the CMS Executive Secretary and the Standing Committee to facilitate the selection of the representatives to participate in this workshop on synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions, mandated by CBD COP 12 in the same decision.

8. In October 2015, the 44th meeting of the CMS Standing Committee endorsed the Joint Work Plan for the CBD and CMS Secretariats for the period 2016-2018.⁵ The joint work plan identifies activities that contribute to the attainment of both the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the Migratory Species Targets. The secretariats will hold an annual coordination meeting as well as regular teleconference calls to discuss the implementation of the Joint Work Plan.

3. *Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora*

9. The Executive Secretary participated in the seventeenth meeting of Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora CITES (CITES CoP 17), held from 24 September to 5 October 2016 in Johannesburg, South Africa. In line with resolution Conf. 16.4, the meeting discussed issues related to cooperation with other biodiversity-related conventions, including options consistent with the CITES Strategic Vision 2008-2020 to strengthen

² See UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/9, UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/9/Add.1 and UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/INF/21.

³ <https://www.cbd.int/blg/>.

⁴ The Strategic Plan can be found in Annex 1 to Resolution 11.2 at the following address: http://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/document/Res_11_02_Strategic_Plan_for_MS_2015_2023_E_0.pdf.

⁵ The Joint Work Plan for the CBD and CMS Secretariats for the period 2016-2018 is available at the following address: http://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/uploads/pdfs/CMS-CBD_JWP_2016-2018_e.pdf.

cooperation, collaboration and synergies with the biodiversity-related conventions on activities related to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The 66th meeting of the Standing Committee, held in January 2016 in Geneva, also addressed related issues.

10. The Secretariats of CITES and CBD convened regional joint preparatory meetings for CITES CoP 17 and CBD COP 13 and its concurrent meetings of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and Nagoya Protocol in August 2016. The preparatory meetings respond to CITES CoP Resolutions Conf. 3.4, 10.4 and 16.4 and CBD COP decisions XII/6 and XII/29, among others, which called for partnerships and synergies with other organizations or biodiversity related-conventions for holding regional preparatory meetings prior to the upcoming meetings of the CoP/COP of both conventions. The meetings were made possible at the initiative of the Secretariat of CITES with the generous financial support of the European Union. The joint preparatory meetings took place in Bangkok from 1 to 5 August 2016 (Asia); in Addis Ababa, from 8 to 12 August 2016 (Africa); in Apia from 15 to 19 August (Pacific); and in Antigua, Guatemala from 22 to 26 August (Latin America and the Caribbean).⁶ The organization of the meetings was supported by the UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and UNEP Regional Office for West Asia (Asia); the UNEP Regional Office for Africa (Africa); the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (Pacific); and the Organization of American States (Latin America and the Caribbean).

4. *International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture*

11. The CBD Secretariat participated in the sixth session of the Governing Body (GB-6) of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA). In Resolution 7, the Governing Body welcomed the CBD COP decision to hold a workshop on synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions and requested the Secretary and the Bureau to facilitate the selection of the representatives to participate in this workshop and report on the outcomes to the Seventh Session of the Governing Body. In its resolution 10, GB-6 urged Contracting Parties to take measures to enhance synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions to promote policy coherence improve efficiency and enhance coordination and cooperation at all levels.

12. In the context of their memorandum of cooperation, the CBD and ITPGRFA Secretariats have agreed on a joint initiative to promote the complementary implementation of the ITPGRFA, the CBD and its Nagoya Protocol. Collaborative activities between ITPGRFA and the Nagoya Protocol are presented in a note by the Executive Secretary, UNEP/CBD/NP/COP-MOP/2/6.

5. *Ramsar Convention on Wetlands*

13. The CBD Secretariat participated in the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Ramsar Convention (Ramsar COP 12) held in Punta del Este, Uruguay, from 1 to 9 June 2015. In paragraph 15 of resolution XII.3, the COP to the Ramsar Convention welcomed CBD decision XII/6 and, in paragraph 46, requested the Secretary General and the Standing Committee to facilitate the selection of the representatives to participate in the workshop on synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions that took place in February 2016.

14. In line with CBD decision XI/23, Ramsar resolution XII.3 paragraph 47 refers to the Joint Work Plan 2011-2020 between CBD and the Ramsar Convention, requesting the Ramsar Secretariat to continue its cooperative partnership with CBD Secretariat to promote awareness of, and capacity-building for,

⁶ The meeting web pages are located at the following addresses: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=PREPCOP-2016-01>; <https://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=PREPCOP-2016-02>; <https://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=PREPCOP-2016-03>; <https://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=PREPCOP-2016-04>.

ecosystem-based solutions for water management as a contribution to sustainable development. Paragraph 51 of the same resolution encourages Parties to implement the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and to indicate, through their national reports, how the actions they undertake for the implementation of the Ramsar Convention contribute to achievement of the Aichi Targets. The goal of the fifth Joint Work Plan 2011-2020 between CBD and the Ramsar Convention is the conservation, sustainable and wise use of biodiversity especially in wetlands, helping to assure the full achievement of the Vision, Mission and Goals of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (2011-2020) and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and the Mission and Strategies of the Ramsar Strategic Plan 2009-2015.⁷

15. In resolution XII.2, the Ramsar COP approved the Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2024 which defines the priorities for the implementation of the Ramsar Convention. The goals and targets of the Ramsar Strategic Plan are fully aligned with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets and contribute directly to implementation of CBD. The plan identifies synergies with other multilateral environmental agreements as a priority area of focus, and encourages Parties to synergize their efforts aimed at implementing the Ramsar Convention with measures that they take to implement the CBD.

6. *International Plant Protection Convention*

16. The CBD Secretariat participated in the tenth session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (governing body of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)), held in Rome from 16 to 20 March 2015, and in the eleventh session of the Commission, held in Rome from 4 to 8 April 2016. The Bureau of the Commission considered and facilitated the selection of the representatives to participate in the workshop on synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions. In collaboration with the IPPC Secretariat, the CBD Secretariat has contributed to the development of Risk Communication Guidelines to IPPC under the activities of the International Advisory Group on Pest Risk Analysis. Collaborative activities between IPPC and the Cartagena Protocol are presented in a note by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/8/6).

7. *World Heritage Convention*

17. The 39th session of the World Heritage Committee was held in Bonn from 28 June to 8 July 2015. In line with CBD decision XII/6 and following the election of the World Heritage Committee by the General Assembly of the World Heritage Convention that met during the 38th session of the General Conference of UNESCO held from 3 to 18 November 2015, the Committee considered and facilitated the selection of representatives to participate in the workshop on synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions that took place in February 2016. The 40th session World Heritage Committee was held in Istanbul, from 10 to 20 July 2016 and resumed at UNESCO Headquarters from 24 to 26 October 2016. In decision 40 COM 5A, the Committee welcomed the enhanced cooperation and synergies with the biodiversity-related conventions and programmes and invited the World Heritage Centre to continue its engagement with the synergy processes.

18. A related outcome of the 38th session of the General Conference of UNESCO was the adoption of the Man and Biosphere (MAB) Strategy 2015-2025. The strategy refers specifically to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its first objective is to “Conserve Biodiversity, Restore and Enhance Ecosystem Services, and Foster the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources”.

⁷ The fifth Joint Work Plan 2011-2020 between the CBD and the Ramsar Convention is available on line at: http://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/moc/CBD-Ramsar5thJWP_2011-2020.pdf.

B. The Rio conventions

19. This section of the note reports on cooperation among the Rio conventions: the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), including in the context of the Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions (JLG). The report by the United Nations Secretary-General on the “Implementation of United Nations Environmental Conventions” (A/71/005), submitted to the 71st session of the United Nations General Assembly compiles reports on the three conventions provided by the Secretariats of UNFCCC, UNCCD and CBD.

1. *Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions*

20. The Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions (JLG) held its fourteenth meeting in Bonn on 24 August 2016, hosted and chaired by the Executive Secretary of UNCCD. The JLG agreed to collaborate on the preparation of a short publication on ecosystem-based approaches for reducing land degradation that would support the revision of national adaptation plans in Africa and to continue its collaboration on common indicators. The meeting report is available on the JLG webpage.⁸

2. *United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification*

21. The CBD Secretariat participated in the twelfth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) (UNCCD COP 12) held in Ankara, from 12 to 23 October 2015, and in the fifteenth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention held in Nairobi from 18 to 20 October 2016. At UNCCD COP 12, the Executive Secretary participated in the High-level Segment and also met with international organizations working on dry and sub-humid lands biodiversity to discuss the most pressing issues facing dry and sub-humid lands biodiversity and ways in which the CBD can contribute to addressing them, including through possible collaboration. The results of a technical workshop on ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction, that had been held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 28 September to 2 October 2015, were presented at a side-event in the margins of UNCCD COP 12. Another side-event was organized to present the results of the global study on leveraging social programmes with socioeconomic objectives for the conservation and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems.

22. The indicator on the “Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area” has been adopted as an indicator for SDG target 15.3.⁹ It is also included in the list of indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 to be considered by COP 13 in a draft decision arising from SBSTTA recommendation XX/13 (UNEP/CBD/COP/13/2) as per the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group in which the UNCCD Secretariat was represented and based on documentation contributed by UNCCD.¹⁰ In further developing this indicator, the CBD Secretariat continues to collaborate with UNCCD, FAO and others, including by jointly organizing the expert meeting on the land degradation indicator in Washington, DC, from 25 to 26 February 2016, which brought together over 60 experts from organizations, institutions, Governments and the private sector. Participants concluded a framework and set of guiding principles.¹¹

⁸ <https://www.cbd.int/doc/reports/jlg-14-report-en.pdf>.

⁹ SDG target 15.3: By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world.

¹⁰ <https://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/ind/id-ahteg-2015-01/information/id-ahteg-2015-01-inf-05-en.pdf>.

¹¹ <http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/Rio+20/LDN%202016/DC%20expert%20meeting%20SDG%20indicator%2015.3.1%20summary.pdf>.

23. The Secretariats of UNCCD and CBD maintained their joint liaison arrangements at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

3. *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*

24. The Secretariat participated in the Lima Climate Change Conference (twentieth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (UNFCCC COP 20) and tenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP 10)) held in Lima, from 1 to 12 December 2014. The Secretariat also participated in the Paris Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC COP 21 and CMP 11), held from 30 November to 13 December 2015, which culminated in the adoption of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.¹² Parties to the Paris Agreement are expected, inter alia, to take action to conserve and enhance, as appropriate, sinks and reservoirs of greenhouse gases which, according to Article 4, paragraph 1(d), of UNFCCC, include biomass, forests and oceans as well as other terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystems.

25. Among other activities, the Secretariat contributed to the Structured Expert Dialogue under UNFCCC on the 2013–2015 review of the adequacy of the long-term global goal to ensure that global temperature increases does not exceed 2°C, and to the National Adaptation Expo of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, where the Secretariat organized an event on ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation. The Secretariat will continue to engage with the Nairobi Work Programme, the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, the Conference of the Parties to UNFCCC and its subsidiary bodies and the preparation of the special reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, including the one on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, focusing particularly on the impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services. In addition, as part of the ongoing work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Paris Agreement, the Secretariat made a submission in October 2016 on features of nationally determined contributions and their links to national biodiversity strategies and action plans. The CBD Secretariat will also participate in UNFCCC COP 22 and CMP 12 to be held in Bab Ighli, Marrakech, Morocco, from 7 to 18 November 2016.¹³

26. The Secretariat, through these collaborative activities, aims to promote ecosystem-based approaches to climate change mitigation and adaptation, and disaster risk reduction, and activities that will help to reduce the impacts of climate change, and climate change mitigation and adaptation activities on biodiversity, contributing to the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Targets 10, 14 and 15. More information on the collaboration between the CBD Secretariat and UNFCCC and other processes related to climate change is provided in UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/20/10.

4. *The Rio Conventions Pavilion*

27. The Rio Conventions Pavilion was convened at the margins of UNCCD COP 12, from 12 to 23 October 2015, bringing together Party representatives, representatives of civil society organizations and other stakeholders to discuss issues such as: land's role in climate mitigation; sustainable land management; ecosystem restoration; Sustainable Development Goals; and Indigenous Peoples and Local Community Sustainable Land Managers. At the margins of UNFCCC COP 21, from 1 to 11 December 2015, the Rio Conventions Pavilion hosted daily engaging programmes with a particular focus on sustainable land management and biodiversity in the context of sustainable development. The Rio Convention Pavilion will convene for the tenth time at CBD COP 13, from 5 to 16 December 2016.

¹² United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Conference of the Parties, twenty-first session, decision 1/CP.21 (see FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1).

¹³ At the time of the publication of this pre-session document, UNFCCC COP 22 had not taken place.

C. Other conventions

1. *United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea*

28. The Secretariat has participated in the process initiated by the General Assembly in its resolution 69/292 of 19 June 2015 on the development of an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of the marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, providing interventions during the meetings and convening side events on relevant work under the Convention.

2. *International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments*

29. The International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments (BWM Convention) will enter into force on 8 September 2017, having reached a milestone on 8 September 2016 that brings the combined tonnage of contracting States to the treaty to 35.1441 per cent, with 52 contracting Parties.¹⁴ Under the Convention's terms, ships will be required to manage their ballast water to remove, render harmless, or avoid the uptake or discharge of aquatic organisms and pathogens within ballast water and sediments. The Convention will then contribute to the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Target 9 on invasive alien species.

II. COOPERATION WITH OTHER INTERGOVERNMENTAL PROCESSES

30. Implications of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other relevant international processes for the future work of the Convention were addressed by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its first meeting and are further reported in document UNEP/CBD/COP/13/10.

A. Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

31. The CBD Secretariat participated in the third session of the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES-3) held from 12 to 17 January 2015, in Bonn, and the fourth session of the Plenary (IPBES-4) held 2016, in Kuala Lumpur, from 22 to 28 February. Among the outcomes of the fourth session of the Plenary was the approval of a summary for policymakers of the thematic assessment on pollinators, pollination and food production and of a summary for policymakers of a methodological assessment of scenarios and models of biodiversity and ecosystem services. The assessments of IPBES are relevant to, among other things, the preparation of the fifth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook*. The Conference of the Parties is invited to consult documents UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/19/9, UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/20/9 and UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/20/13, as well as the draft decisions arising from SBSTTA recommendations XIX/5, XX/9 and XX/13 on the implications of these assessments for the work of the Convention. The Secretariat also participated in the IPBES Global Assessment First Author Meeting held in Bonn from 15 to 19 August 2016, the second meeting of the IPBES Capacity-building Forum held in New York on 23 September 2016, the scenario analysis and modelling meeting held in Leipzig from 3 to 7 October 2016, and is a member of the indigenous and local knowledge Task Force on the implementation of the IPBES Programme of Work on issues related to indigenous and local knowledge.

B. 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

32. Work undertaken by the Secretariat in respect to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including in cooperation with other United Nations

¹⁴ The convention stipulates that it will enter into force 12 months after ratification by a minimum of 30 States, representing 35 per cent of world merchant shipping tonnage.

entities in the related processes, has been reported in document UNEP/CBD/COP/13/10 and was presented to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its first meeting. This included engagement in the sessions of the intergovernmental negotiations towards the 2030 Agenda held at United Nations Headquarters between January and September 2015; participation in the Third International Conference on Financing for Development held in July 2015 in Addis Ababa, participation in the Interagency and Expert Group on indicators for the SDGs; and participation in the high-level political forum on sustainable development held in New York from 11 to 20 July 2016.

33. The Secretariat will continue to work with other members of the BLG and other conventions and United Nations organizations in supporting implementation of the SDGs and their review by the high-level political forum on sustainable development held under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council and of the General Assembly of the United Nations. The Goals to be reviewed at the next session of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, to be held in New York, from 10 to 19 July 2017, include Goal 14; in 2018, they include Goal 15.¹⁵ In addition, there is opportunity for the Convention to contribute to the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and Sustainably Use the Oceans, Seas and Marine Resources for Sustainable Development, to be held in New York from 5 to 9 June 2017. The Secretariat is participating in the informal preparatory working groups for the conference.

C. United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

34. The CBD Secretariat participated in the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction held in Sendai, Japan, from 14 to 18 March 2015, which adopted the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. The Framework recognizes that sustainable management of ecosystems can contribute to disaster resilience. The Sendai Framework and the CBD COP (through decision XII/20) support the integration of disaster risk reduction into relevant national plans and strategies. Further relevant information is provided in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/20/INF/2.

D. Follow-up to the Third United Nations Conference on Small Island Developing States

35. The Third United Nations Conference on Small Island Developing States adopted the Small Island Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action, or SAMOA Pathway, and developed the SIDS Action Platform.¹⁶ As a direct follow up, the 70th session of the General Assembly decided to formally establish, through resolution A/70/202, the SIDS Partnership Framework, to monitor and ensure the full implementation of pledges and commitments through partnerships for Small Island developing States. As a member of the Steering and Executive Committees of the Global Island Partnership (GLISPA), which is recognized as a mechanism for advancing the conservation of island biodiversity in COP decision IX/2 and decision XI/15, the CBD Secretariat contributes to the SIDS Partnership Framework.

E. United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development

36. The CBD Secretariat participated in the Third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016. The Secretariat also participated in the United Nations Task Team for the preparation of Habitat III. Following the inclusive process in preparation for the conference, the draft document of the New Urban Agenda (NUA) to be considered for adoption underscores the importance of biodiversity and ecosystems in the urban context, and their strong linkages to climate change adaptation, in particular the section on

¹⁵ General Assembly resolution 70/299.

¹⁶ The text of the SAMOA Pathway and the SIDS Action Platform are available online at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sids2014>.

“Environmentally Sustainable and Resilient Urban Development” (paras. 63-80), as well as under “Our Shared Vision (para. 13 (h)) and “Our Principles and Commitments” (14 (c)). The Executive Secretary issued a notification in this regard on 15 September 2016.

F. Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

37. The Secretariat participated in the fourteenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) held in New York from 20 April to 1 May 2015. The Secretariat also participated in the UN Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples Issues (IASG) from 20 to 24 April, including in meetings with UNPFII members.

G. Second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly

38. The CBD Secretariat participated in the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEA-2), held in Nairobi, from 23 to 27 May 2016. UNEA 2 adopted 25 resolutions on key environmental issues requiring international attention, including, of particular relevance to the work of the Convention, resolution 2/13 on sustainable management of natural capital for sustainable development and poverty eradication; 2/16 on mainstreaming of biodiversity for well-being; 2/10 on oceans and seas; 2/11 on marine plastic litter and microplastics and 2/12 on sustainable coral reefs management; 2/6 on supporting the Paris Agreement; 2/21 on sand and dust storms; 2/24 on combating desertification, land degradation and promoting sustainable pastoralism and rangelands; 2/14 on illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products; 2/17 on enhancing the work of the United Nations Environment Programme in facilitating cooperation, collaboration and synergies among biodiversity-related conventions; and 2/18 on the relationship between the United Nations Environment Programme and the multilateral environmental agreements for which it provides the secretariats.

39. In resolution 2/16 on mainstreaming of biodiversity for well-being, UNEA-2 underlined that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development includes goals and targets to promote the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and priority ecosystems for advancing social well-being, economic growth and environmental protection by applying integrated approaches. It underlined the importance of adopting and implementing policies and guidelines for the integration of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in all relevant sectors to ensure the fulfilment of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals. It stressed that the integration of policies set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is an adequate approach for promoting the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in various sectors, including agriculture, forestry, fisheries and tourism, among others, which are interconnected, inter alia, with food security, economic growth, human health, the improvement of living conditions and the enjoyment of a healthy environment; and calls on Member States to promote the integrated approach in their national policies, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development. The resolution also reaffirmed the need to promote synergies between the biodiversity-related agreements.

40. In resolution 2/17 on enhancing the work of the United Nations Environment Programme in facilitating cooperation, collaboration and synergies among biodiversity-related conventions, UNEA-2 requested the Executive Director, in an effort to enhance synergies, to share information and to strive to align the programme of work of UNEP with decisions and resolutions of the respective conferences of the parties of the biodiversity-related conventions, and invited the respective conferences of the parties to be mindful of the programme of work of UNEP during their deliberations. It also requested the Executive Director to promote the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and communicate at all levels the importance of the national biodiversity strategies and action plans as instruments for delivering coherent and effective implementation of the biodiversity-related conventions,

including by mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services into relevant sectors and policies. In addition, it requested the Executive Director to cooperate with the secretariats of the biodiversity-related conventions and IPBES to facilitate the interoperability of data, information, knowledge and tools and enhance sharing of information among the biodiversity-related conventions, IPBES and UNEP. Furthermore, it requested the Executive Director to facilitate collaboration among the biodiversity-related conventions and other relevant United Nations bodies to contribute to the follow-up and review process of biodiversity-related goals and targets of the Sustainable Development Goals by the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

41. Among the afore-noted resolutions that relate to programmes of work and cross-cutting issues of the Convention, resolutions 2/10, 2/11 and 2/12, which relate to marine and coastal biodiversity, make explicit cross-reference to the Convention. Resolution 2/10 on oceans and seas acknowledges ongoing work under the Convention; addresses ocean-related Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets, including Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 on area-based conservation measures; and provides for enhancement of support by UNEP in these areas, among other things to include oceans-related aspects of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets in UNEP activities.

III. COOPERATION IN THE CONTEXT OF INTERAGENCY AND COORDINATION NETWORKS

A. Environment Management Group

42. The CBD Secretariat continued to participate in the United Nations Environment Management (EMG), in particular in its Consultative Process on a United Nations System-Wide Framework of Strategies on the Environment, its Task Team on maximizing the Effectiveness of the EMG in the Context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Issues Management Group on Environmental Sustainability Management in the United Nations System. The Secretariat participated in the 22nd Senior Officials Meeting of the EMG held in New York on 22 September 2016 and the Technical Segment of that meeting held on 21 September 2016.

B. The Aichi Biodiversity Targets Task Force

43. The establishment and membership of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets Task Force through a Memorandum of Cooperation on the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the achievement of the 2020 Aichi Biodiversity Targets has been reported in previous documents.¹⁷ Following the meeting of the task force held at the margins of COP 12, a technical meeting of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets Task Force was convened in the margins of the nineteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice in Montreal, Canada on 4 November 2015. The meeting was chaired by the Executive Secretary of CBD, and discussed: contributions to the Aichi Biodiversity Target 1 and the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity; potential leadership for the Aichi Biodiversity Targets; and the way forward for the task force.

C. Inter-agency Liaison Group on Invasive Alien Species

44. The Secretariat organized, in collaboration with the International Maritime Organization, the fifth meeting of the Inter-agency Liaison Group on Invasive Alien Species in London, from 31 March to 2 April 2015. The meeting updated collaborative work of the group to address gaps in IAS regulatory

¹⁷ See UNEP/CBD/COP/12/24.

frameworks and capacity development of CBD Parties and member states to relevant international agreements.

D. Collaborative Partnership on Wildlife Management

45. A progress report of the Collaborative Partnership on Wildlife Management (CPF) for the period 2014-2016 was presented to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Affairs at its twentieth meeting.¹⁸

E. Collaborative Partnership on Forests

46. In paragraph 20 of decision XII/6, the Executive Secretary was requested to engage actively in the work of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) and to prepare a study on the ways in which international organizations and secretariats with substantial programmes on forests are assisting in implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets of relevance to forests. The study was undertaken in collaboration with other members of CPF, presented to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at its nineteenth meeting, and forms the basis of the recommended decision contained in SBSTTA recommendation IX/8 reproduced in document UNEP/CBD/COP/13/2. Information document UNEP/CBD/COP/13/INF/13 provides a report on the implementation of the International Tropical Timber Organization / CBD Collaborative Initiative for Tropical Forest Biodiversity.

F. Sustainable Ocean Initiative

47. The CBD Secretariat serves as secretariat and coordinates the Sustainable Ocean Initiative (SOI) which is a global platform to build partnerships and enhance capacity to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets related to marine and coastal biodiversity. The Conference of the Parties is invited to consult document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/20/6 for information on SOI activities conducted during the intersessional period. With financial support from the Governments of the Republic of Korea and Japan and the European Commission, and in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Secretariat of the North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission, Secretariat of the Nairobi Convention, IUCN-CEM-Fisheries Expert Group, and the Global Ocean Biodiversity Initiative, the Secretariat co-organized the Sustainable Ocean Initiative Global Dialogue with Regional Seas Organizations and Regional Fisheries Bodies on Accelerating Progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets in Seoul from 26 to 29 September 2016. The dialogue brought together regional bodies to share lessons learned on regional-scale cooperation and scientific mechanisms to implement and make progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the SDGs in marine and coastal areas. Participants also discussed the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and opportunities for global processes and initiatives to better support regional-level collaboration and implementation of the Strategic Plan, the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the SDGs.

G. Other stakeholder and coordination networks

48. The CBD Secretariat continues to collaborate with networks of stakeholders involved in the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The Secretariat collaborated with the CBD Alliance in the publication of a civil society newsletter, Square Brackets, and in coordinating requests related to participation of civil society representatives in CBD meetings, among other activities. With support from the Japan Biodiversity Fund, the Global Youth Biodiversity Network implemented Youth Voices-Mainstreaming GBO-4, which aims to raise awareness of youth and promote action in support of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Collaboration continues with 26

¹⁸ See UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/20/INF/48.

institutions involved in the Consortium of Scientific Partners on Biodiversity, including in the context of the Memorandum of Understanding with the CBD Secretariat. The Secretariat collaborates on an ongoing and continuous basis with the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB) and the Indigenous Women Network on Biodiversity (IWNB) on joint activities regarding indigenous peoples and local communities and traditional knowledge. Further updates on collaboration with gender-related organizations is provided in document UNEP/CBD/COP/13/8/Add.3, and updates on collaboration with the business sector and with cities and subnational governments are provided as part of document UNEP/CBD/COP/13/10.

IV. COOPERATION WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

A. United Nations Environment Programme

49. In the context of decision XII/6 and in preparation for the workshop on synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions, the CBD Secretariat facilitated two webinars on 20 and 27 January 2016 to introduce the workshop participants to the findings presented in the UNEP “Sourcebook of opportunities for enhancing cooperation among the biodiversity-related conventions at national and regional levels” and its report, “Elaboration of options for enhancing synergies among biodiversity-related conventions”. The two documents were made available for the information of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its first meeting (UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/INF/36 and UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/INF/37). In the same context, the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) also prepared a Study on Key Capacity-Building and Awareness-Raising Needs Regarding Cooperation among MEAs at the National Level, which was also presented and used at the workshop on synergies.

50. The CBD Secretariat contributed information and reviewed regional reports as complements to the fourth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook*, for Africa, Asia and the Pacific, West Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean, prepared by UNEP-WCMC in collaboration with the respective UNEP regional offices, and launched at UNEA 2.¹⁹ Among other publications based on the work of UNEP relevant to the Convention, UNEP also published “Enhancing cooperation among the seven biodiversity related Agreements and Conventions at national level using NBSAPs”. UNEP also prepared a publication on Contributions of the United Nations Environment Programme towards Achieving the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (2011-2020) and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, which the Executive Secretary circulated as an information document to SBI 1 (UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/INF/57).²⁰

51. UNEP-WCMC continued to facilitate the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership and, among other work, prepared a publication entitled “Using global biodiversity indicators and underlying data to support NBSAP development and national reporting: Roadmap to support NBSAP practitioners.”²¹

52. Collaboration continued with the UNEP-led Multilateral Environmental Agreement Information and Knowledge Management (MEA-IKM) initiative on various topics, including the InforMEA website, thesaurus, and interoperability. The CBD Secretariat participated in the Sixth MEA-IKM Steering Committee Meeting, held in Montreux, Switzerland from 15 to 17 September 2015, and organized by UNEP. Representatives of the MEA-IKM took part in the workshop on synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions.

¹⁹ UNEP-WCMC regional reports, The State of Biodiversity – a mid-term review of progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, <http://www.unep-wcmc.org/news/regional-progress-towards-global-environmental-targets-assessed-on-international-day-for-biodiversity>.

²⁰ These and other relevant UNEP publications are available on the UNEP website at: <http://www.unep.org/delc/Publications/tabid/54417/Default.aspx>.

²¹ The UNEP-WCMC publication and other relevant work of the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership (BIP) is available at the BIP website: <http://www.bipindicators.net/>.

53. Through its regional offices, UNEP contributed to the organization of the regional joint preparatory meetings for CITES CoP 17 and CBD COP 13, COP MOP 8 and COP MOP 2 for Asia and Africa in August 2016. UNEP also participated in these regional meetings and those convened for the Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean.

54. In 2014, the Executive Director of UNEP established a Task Team on the Effectiveness of Administrative Arrangements and Programmatic Cooperation between UNEP and UNEP-administered Convention Secretariats to carry out an internal review of the recommendations provided by past consultations between UNEP and the convention secretariats, their follow-up, and the current state and level of effectiveness of the administrative arrangements and programmatic cooperation. The CBD Secretariat chaired the Working Group on Programmatic Cooperation and was represented in the Working Group on Effectiveness of Administrative Arrangements. The final report of the Task Team was presented by the Executive Director to UNEA 2.

55. The CBD Secretariat participated in the second session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEA 2) held in Nairobi, from 23 to 27 May 2016 (see section II, above on outcomes of UNEA 2) and contributed to discussions and events in relevant areas. A special event was held to mark the International Day for Biological Diversity on 22 May 2016.

B. United Nations Development Programme

56. Since its launch in 2012, the Global Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN),²² managed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), assisted 30 countries in developing a methodology for quantifying the biodiversity finance gap at the national level, for improving cost-effectiveness through mainstreaming of biodiversity into national development and sectoral planning, and for developing comprehensive national resource mobilizing strategies. The CBD Secretariat, in collaboration with BIOFIN, organized an international technical expert workshop on identifying, accessing, compiling and aggregating domestic and international biodiversity-related investments and impacts, from 5 to 7 May 2015 in Mexico and its outcomes were used in subsequent activities.²³ The BIOFIN Workbook Transforming Biodiversity Finance²⁴ was disseminated and promoted as a key tool in the development and revision of an NBSAP in support of Aichi Targets 17 and 20. The Conference of the Parties is invited to consult document UNEP/CBD/COP/13/11 for more information on related initiatives. UNDP continued to collaborate with UNEP (UNEP-WCMC) and CBD Secretariat in the management of the NBSAP Forum.

C. Global Environment Facility

57. The CBD Secretariat participated in the 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th and 51st meetings of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Council held in October 2014, June 2015, October 2015, June 2016 and October 2016, respectively. At the margins of the 50th meeting, the Secretariat participated in an informal dialogue “Secretariats of MEAs and GEF”, convened by the GEF Secretariat to explore possibilities to engage the MEA Secretariats in regular consultations to identify key cross-cutting themes that may merit coordinated GEF response. The GEF Secretariat participated in the nineteenth and twentieth meetings of SBSTTA and the first meeting of SBI.

²² <http://www.biodiversityfinance.net>.

²³ The report was made available to participants of these meetings and circulated to all Parties through notification 2015/118 of 16 October 2015, available at the following address: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=RMEM-2015-01>.

²⁴ The Workbook is available online at: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/fin/rmem-2015-01/other/rmem-2015-01-biofin-workbook-en.pdf>.

58. In 2015, the CBD and GEF Secretariats jointly organized a series of subregional workshops, held back-to-back with GEF expanded constituency workshops, on the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols and financial reporting. Details are provided in UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/7 and UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/INF/17. In May 2016, the Secretariat participated in the first meeting of the Gender Partnership of GEF, a working group of gender focal points from GEF implementing agencies, convention secretariats and civil society gender representatives. The workshop discussed the GEF's gender policy, reviewed the CBD's approaches to gender mainstreaming, and discussed challenges faced by GEF implementing agencies on gender mainstreaming, among other issues. The CBD and GEF Secretariats held a retreat from 27 to 28 June 2016 in Montreal on the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols, including trends towards more integrated approaches to GEF programme implementation, integrated implementation of the Convention and its Protocols, the needs-assessment being prepared by the Convention for the seventh replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund (GEF-7) and possible collaboration for the GEF-7 replenishment process.

D. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

59. In paragraph 17 of decision XII/6, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary and invited the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to continue to strengthen their cooperation on relevant matters.

60. In support of that objective, FAO prepared a note on the relationship between the work of FAO and the implementation of Aichi Biodiversity Target 7 which, at the request of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) at its nineteenth meeting, was reviewed by Parties and observers and provided by the Executive Secretary for the information of participants in the twentieth meeting of SBSTTA and the first meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI 1).²⁵ In addition, FAO prepared the principles and approaches for Building a Common Vision for Sustainable Food and Agriculture which was also circulated for the information of participants in SBSTTA 20 and SBI 1.²⁶

61. In collaboration with FAO, the Secretariat prepared a peer-reviewed report on actions to mainstream biodiversity into sustainable forest management.²⁷ In addition, the Secretariat prepared a report, with review and input by FAO and other relevant organizations, on Strategic Scientific and Technical Issues Related to the Implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020: Biodiversity, Fisheries and Aquaculture, which includes suggested ways and opportunities to mainstream biodiversity in fisheries and aquaculture.²⁸ The Secretariat also contributed to the document on Mainstreaming Ecosystem Services and Biodiversity into Agricultural Production and Management in East Asia.

62. This collaborative work with FAO on mainstreaming biodiversity into food and agriculture, sustainable forest management, and fisheries and aquaculture has informed the recommendations of SBSTTA and SBI for a decision by the COP at its thirteenth meeting on strategic actions to enhance the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the achievement of the Aichi

²⁵ Building a Common Vision for Sustainable Food and Agriculture and the implementation of Aichi Biodiversity Target 7 (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/20/INF/53 and UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/INF/58).

²⁶ UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/20/INF/54 and UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/INF/55. The report is available for download on the FAO website at: <http://www.fao.org/publications/card/en/c/bee03701-10d1-40da-bcb8-633c94446922>.

²⁷ Actions to mainstream biodiversity into sustainable forest management (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/20/INF/50 and UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/INF/56).

²⁸ Strategic Scientific and Technical Issues Related to the Implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020: Biodiversity, Fisheries and Aquaculture (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/20/INF/51).

Biodiversity Targets, including with respect to mainstreaming and the integration of biodiversity within and across sectors.

63. FAO has continued its work on the report on *The State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture* and provided an update on the status of its preparation to SBSTTA 20.²⁹ The report is being prepared under the guidance of FAO's Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and will be presented to the Commission's Sixteenth Regular Session, which will be held from 30 January to 3 February 2017. The CBD Secretariat and the Commission have a joint work plan for 2011-2020, focused on the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Cooperation with FAO in the context of the Commission is further reported in UNEP/CBD/NP/COP-MOP/2/6.

64. The CBD Secretariat collaborated with FAO in the development of the Global Forest Resources Assessment 2015 report and the State of the World's Forest Genetic Resources.

65. The 23rd session of the FAO Committee on Forestry (COFO 23), which was held in Rome from 18 to 22 July 2016, focused on the interlinkages between forest and other sectors and issues, including biodiversity and climate change. Among the key outcomes of COFO 23 was a decision requesting FAO to collaborate with the CBD Secretariat and with the ministries responsible for forests and the forest sector to support the preparations for COP 13. FAO presented a variety of tools that can assist Parties to CBD in meeting their national biodiversity commitments and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Targets and the SDGs. The Government of Mexico, together with FAO and the CBD Secretariat, organized a special event on the opportunities and challenges for mainstreaming biodiversity in the forest sector.

66. The 25th Session of the Committee on Agriculture (COAG 25) was held in Rome, from 26 to 30 September 2016. Among other issues relevant to the Convention and the forthcoming COP 13, the meeting addressed agriculture and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, sustainable soil management and the Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS). At the margins of the meeting, FAO led a side-event on harnessing biodiversity for sustainable agriculture in a changing world – options and challenges on the way to Cancun (CBD COP13).

67. The 32nd session of the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI 32) took place in Rome, from 11 to 15 July 2016. The CBD Secretariat delivered a statement highlighting the focus of the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties on mainstreaming, including in fisheries, as well as relevant work under the Convention related to Aichi Biodiversity Target 6, ecologically or biologically significant marine areas (EBSAs) and the SOI Global Dialogue on Regional Seas Organizations and Regional Fishery Bodies. The Secretariat also co-organized a side event with FAO and the Fisheries Expert Group of the Commission on Ecosystem Management of IUCN (IUCN-FEG), providing further information on this relevant work. The plenary discussions of COFI highlighted the importance of COP 13 for fisheries and the need for fisheries stakeholders to be more involved in relevant work under CBD.

68. The Secretariat co-organized with FAO and IUCN-FEG, in collaboration with the European Bureau on Conservation and Development, an expert meeting on improving progress reporting and working towards the implementation of Aichi Biodiversity Target 6, in Rome, from 9 to 11 February, 2016. The meeting prepared a draft conceptual framework that could be used as guidance in support of Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations in reporting on their implementation towards the achievement of Target 6.³⁰

²⁹ Status of preparation of the report on *The State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture* (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/20/INF/42).

³⁰ The report of the workshop is available in UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/20/INF/27.

69. In addition, FAO contributed with other partners, including the CBD Secretariat, GEF, UNESCO, UNEP, UNDP and the World Bank, to collaborate with the Government of Norway in organizing the eighth Trondheim Conference on Biodiversity, which focused on “Food systems for a sustainable future: interlinkages between biodiversity and agriculture”. Over 300 participants from Governments, United Nations agencies, and international and non-governmental organizations attended the meeting, which convened from 31 May to 3 June 2016.

70. Cooperation with FAO in the context of the Nagoya Protocol is reported in document UNEP/CBD/NP/COP-MOP/2/6. Cooperation in the context of the Cartagena Protocol is reported in document UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/8/6.

E. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

71. The Secretariat participated in the World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development, from 10 to 12 November 2014 in Nagoya, Japan, and serves as a member of the inter-agency group for the Global Action Plan on Education for Sustainable Development. UNESCO and CBD Secretariat will continue to collaborate in strengthening education and training programmes on biodiversity within the context of the Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), the CBD Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) programme of work and the proposed short-term action plan (2017-2020) to enhance and support capacity-building for the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. A number of ongoing and planned activities, including the pilot projects to strengthen biodiversity through ESD in UNESCO Biosphere Reserves and World Heritage sites, support the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, in particular Targets 1, 18 and 19.

72. Building on the first European Conference for the Implementation of the UNESCO-CBD Joint Programme on Biological and Cultural Diversity (April 2014), which was initiated by UNESCO and the CBD Secretariat in collaboration with the Government of Italy and the University of Florence, the first Asian Conference on Biocultural Diversity was held in Japan, in collaboration with United Nations University, Ishikawa Prefecture and Nanao City, in October 2016. In addition, building on the success of the two-day programme dedicated to the links between biological and cultural diversity that took place during COP 12, UNESCO and CBD Secretariat are planning a major parallel event to take place in the margins of COP 13, in Cancun, Mexico.

73. The CBD Secretariat has collaborated closely with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO on a number of important areas in the context of the programme of work on marine and coastal biodiversity. In particular, IOC-UNESCO’s valuable scientific and technical cooperation has been important in facilitating the description of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas (EBSAs) through the use of the Ocean Biogeographic Information System (OBIS), supporting training through regional capacity development workshops and training of trainers under SOI and providing sources of practical guidance and other resources related to marine spatial planning.

74. During the biennium, the Secretariat and UNESCO have had exchanges to renew collaboration in a number of additional areas, including the Man and the Biosphere Programme and the World Water Assessment Programme, and identified focal points to facilitate delivery of outcomes and outputs of mutual interest.

F. World Health Organization

75. The CBD Secretariat and the World Health Organization (WHO) prepared *Connecting Global Priorities: Biodiversity and Human Health*,³¹ a report on biodiversity and health that shows the

³¹ The report is available online at: <https://www.cbd.int/health/SOK-biodiversity-en.pdf>.

contribution of biodiversity and ecosystem services to better human health. Over 100 experts contributed to the report, including Bioversity International, COHAB Initiative, EcoHealth Alliance, Harvard School of Public Health, United Nations University, Wildlife Conservation Society, which was launched in February 2015 at the 14th World Congress on Public Health, in Kolkata, India.

76. The CBD Secretariat collaborated with WHO, UNEP, the Montreal Protocol and the Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Conventions in preparing: Healthy Environment, Healthy People, a report on environment and health which links a healthy environment and healthy ecosystems as the basis for the implementation of the 2030 agenda for sustainable development. The report was launched at the start of the second United Nations Environmental Assembly (UNEA-2).

77. In July 2015, the CBD Secretariat and the World Health Organization signed a memorandum of understanding to collaborate on activities of mutual interest including regional capacity-building workshops and the possible establishment of a liaison group on human health and biodiversity linkages.

G. International Union for Conservation of Nature

78. The IUCN World Parks Congress was held from 12 to 19 November 2014 in Sydney, Australia. The CBD Secretariat participated at the Congress. Information on the Congress, including its key outcomes, was presented to SBSTTA at its twentieth meeting (see UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/20/INF/40).

79. The IUCN World Conservation Congress was held in Hawaii, United States of America, from 1 to 10 September 2016. The CBD Secretariat participated in the Congress, including several events of the Congress Forum held from 2 to 5 September 2016. A total of 106 resolutions and recommendations were adopted by the Congress, many of them with direct reference to the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and all of them relevant.

80. Resolutions of the World Conservation Congress relevant to various strategic matters being addressed by the Convention, include resolution 012 on the IUCN Red List Index for monitoring extinction risk; 033, on developing a post-2020 strategy for biodiversity (safeguarding space for nature and securing our future: developing a post-2020 strategy); 094 to increase resources for biodiversity conservation research; and 095 on development of IUCN policy on biodiversity conservation and synthetic biology. In addition, many resolutions addressed specific areas under the Convention, including invasive alien species, protected areas, marine and coastal biodiversity, climate change, business and biodiversity, and Article 8(j) and related provisions.

81. With respect to invasive alien species, in addition to the launch of the Honolulu Challenge, the Congress adopted, among others, resolution 014, towards an IUCN standard classification of the impact of invasive alien species; and 017 on strengthening pathway management of alien species in island ecosystems.

82. Relevant to the programme of work on protected areas and related Aichi Biodiversity Targets, including Target 11, the Congress adopted resolution 026 on protected areas and other areas important for biodiversity in relation to environmentally damaging industrial activities and infrastructure development; 029 on recognising and respecting the territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities (ICCAs) overlapped by protected areas; 034 on recognizing cultural and spiritual significance of nature in protected and conserved areas; 037 on supporting privately protected areas; 039 on establishing an IUCN and World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) Task Force on Protected Area Friendly System; 042 on protected areas as natural solutions to climate change; 044 on identifying Key Biodiversity Areas for safeguarding biodiversity; 046 on securing the future for global peatlands; and 048 on protection of primary forests, including intact forest landscapes.

83. Relevant to the programme of work on marine and coastal biodiversity and related Aichi Biodiversity Targets, the Congress adopted resolution 049 on advancing conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction; 050 on cooperation for the conservation and protection of coral reefs worldwide; 051 on international biofouling; 053 on increasing marine protected area coverage for effective marine biodiversity conservation; and 056 on protecting coastal and marine environments from mining waste.

84. With respect to climate change, the Congress adopted resolution 059 on IUCN response to the Paris Climate Change Agreement; and 062 on integration of nature-based solutions into strategies to combat climate change.

85. Relevant to efforts of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 for the engagement of Business, the Congress adopted resolution 064 on IUCN Policy on Biodiversity Offsets; 065 on improving standards in ecotourism; 066 on mitigating the impacts of oil palm expansion and operations on biodiversity; 067 on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and integration of conservation into development; and 073 on strengthening business engagement in biodiversity preservation.

86. Relevant to Article 8(j) and related provisions, in addition to some resolutions related to protected areas, the Congress adopted resolution 022 on recognizing, understanding and enhancing the role of indigenous peoples and local communities in tackling the illegal wildlife trade crisis; 080 on enabling the Whakatane Mechanism to contribute to conservation through securing communities' rights and; 083 on affirmation of the role of indigenous cultures in global conservation efforts.

87. In the context of cooperation related to gender mainstreaming and the CBD 2015-2020 Gender Plan of Action, the IUCN Global Gender Office has served as the implementing partner for an initiative funded by the Japan Biodiversity Fund to support developing countries to integrate gender considerations in national biodiversity strategies and action plans. It has also conducted an analysis of the extent of integration of gender considerations in NBSAPs reported in document UNEP/CBD/COP/13/8/Add.3.

88. Cooperation with IUCN in relation to the Nagoya Protocol is reported in document UNEP/CBD/NP/COP-MOP/2/6.

H. Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development

89. Cooperation with the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has been focused on biodiversity and development. The Secretariat participated at the OECD Workshop on Biodiversity and Development held in Paris on 18 February 2015, and in the seventh, eighth and ninth meetings of the OECD Working Party on Biodiversity, Water, and Ecosystems, held in Paris on 19-20 February 2015, 21-22 October 2015 and 9-12 May 2016, respectively, to promote alignment of the work under review with the CBD work programmes on resource mobilization, incentives, marine and inland biodiversity. OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) continues to monitor development finance targeting the objectives of the Rio Conventions through DAC members' reporting on the Rio markers. Cooperation with the OECD in relation to the Cartagena Protocol is reported in document UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/8/6.

I. Cooperation with regional organizations

1. Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

90. The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) hosted and supported the organization of the Pacific subregional joint preparatory meeting for CITES CoP 17 and CBD

COP 13, COP MOP 2 and COP MOP 8 held in Apia, from 15 to 19 August 2016. The CBD Secretariat and SPREP collaborated in the Sustainable Ocean Initiative (SOI) National Capacity Development Workshop for Samoa held in Apia from 28 to 30 September 2015, and in the SOI Regional Capacity Development Workshop for the South Pacific from 31 October to 4 November 2016.

2. *ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity*

91. In 2015, the Secretariat Worked with UNEP, UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, China-ASEAN Environmental Cooperation Centre and the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity in providing support to ASEAN member states for updating their NBSAPs. The Secretariat participated in the ASEAN Conference on Biodiversity, held in Bangkok from 15 to 19 February 2016.

3. *Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean*

92. At its 20th meeting, held in Cartagena from 28 to 31 March 2016, the Forum of Ministers of Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean agreed to promote at CBD COP 13 the adoption of decisions in support of holistic and integrated approaches towards mainstreaming biodiversity considerations into productive sectors. It further agreed to develop a regional cooperation programme on biodiversity to help build national capacities for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in addition to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

93. As Secretariat of the Forum of Ministers, the UNEP Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNEP-ROLAC) organized a Caribbean Implementation Meeting in January 2015 to consider a number of environmental priorities for the region, including biodiversity. An outcome of the meeting was agreement for the development of a regional strategy for biodiversity. Subsequently, UNEP-ROLAC and CBD Secretariat have collaborated with the Secretariat of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP) towards the development of a Caribbean Biodiversity Strategy in line with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets and key regional and national actions of priority importance for the Caribbean.

4. *Caribbean Community*

94. The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat is also cooperating with the CBD Secretariat and UNEP-ROLAC to support subregional implementation of the CBD and the Nagoya Protocol. Activities include cooperation for a workshop on financing for biodiversity and joint activities in the framework of the African, Caribbean, and Pacific project to enhance capacity for Multilateral Environmental Agreements (ACP-MEAs), including on the production of a CARICOM biodiversity outlook document and a regional capacity building framework for the Nagoya Protocol. The CARICOM Secretariat participated in the regional joint preparatory meeting for Latin America and the Caribbean for CITES CoP 17 and CBD COP 13, COP MOP 2 and COP MOP 8 held from 22 to 26 August 2016 in Antigua, Guatemala.

5. *African Ministerial Conference on the Environment*

95. The Executive Secretary participated in the fifteenth session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) held in Cairo from 5 to 6 March 2015. The meeting gave prominent attention to biodiversity in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and adopted the African Union guidelines for the coordinated implementation of the Nagoya Protocol. At its 6th special session, held from 18 to 19 April 2016 in Cairo, AMCEN adopted decision SS.VI/3 on “Matters relating to biodiversity: Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)”. The decision included a number of actions related to CITES CoP17 and CBD COP 13, COP MOP 8 and COP MOP 2, including a

request to the AMCEN Secretariat to support the regional joint COP-preparatory meeting that was convened by the CITES and CBD Secretariats in Addis Ababa from 8 to 12 August 2016 and for which the UNEP Regional Office for Africa, in its capacity as the AMCEN Secretariat, provided organizational support.

6. *African Union Commission*

96. The Secretariat continued to collaborate with the African Union Commission (AUC) on various matters related to the Convention and its Protocols. The two institutions collaborated in the organization of the Africa Regional Capacity-Building Workshop on Mainstreaming Biosafety into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans held in Addis Ababa in February 2016. A representative of the AUC also participated in the eleventh meeting of the Liaison Group on Capacity-building for Biosafety, held in Montreal from 14 to 16 March 2016. Furthermore, the Secretariat collaborated with AUC in assisting African countries to develop and implement their updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans within the framework of the Capacity Building Programme for the Implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements, funded by the European Commission and coordinated by UNEP (ACP-MEAs Programme).

7. *Cooperation with regional organizations under the programme of work on marine and coastal biodiversity*

97. The Secretariat has cooperated closely with relevant regional organizations in the various activities under the programme of work on marine and coastal biodiversity, including the Action Plan for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Northwest Pacific Region, the Caribbean Environment Programme, the Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia, the Nairobi Convention Secretariat, the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat, the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific, the Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment, the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, the South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme and the UNEP Regional Office West Asia. Cooperation in the regional workshops to facilitate the description of areas meeting the criteria for ecologically or biologically significant marine areas (EBSAs) conducted during the biennium is described in the progress report submitted to SBSTTA 20 (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/20/3). In addition, the SOI Global Dialogue with Regional Seas Organizations and Regional Fisheries Bodies on Accelerating Progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (see section III, above), involved representatives from 15 Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans and 14 Regional Fishery Bodies.
