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PROPOSALS FOR A PROGRAMME OF WORK ON ISLAND BIODIVERSITY

Note by the Executive Secretary

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The main mandate of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Island Biodiversity, as described in the annex to decision VII/31, is the development of proposals for a programme of work on island biological diversity incorporating priority actions to enhance conservation of island biodiversity, sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the utilization of genetic resources from islands. In implementing its mandate, the AHTEG was requested to:

- (a) Develop global outcome- and process-oriented targets and related indicators pertaining to the priority actions;
- (b) Identify relevant actors and partners for the implementation of the programme of work, synergies with other programmes and ways to draw on existing best-practices; and
- (c) Propose ways to link with the Secretary General's WEHAB ("water, energy, health, agriculture, and biodiversity") initiative, and support the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and other relevant objectives identified by the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

2. In line with decision VII/30, on future evaluation of progress in the Strategic Plan of the Convention, and, in particular the provisional framework for goals and targets adopted in annex II of decision VII/30, the Executive Secretary has prepared the present note containing in section II a proposal for consideration by the AHTEG on: (i) programme elements, (ii) goals and (iii) related targets. These proposed goals and targets were drafted taking into account the goals and targets listed in the provisional framework adopted by the Conference of the Parties.

3. The note also contains annex I listing a number of targets and actions suggested through the Island Biodiversity Electronic Forum organized by the Executive Secretary in March and April 2004 and also drawn from recommendations contained in national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs), and the preparatory process towards the Mauritius meeting for the review of the Barbados Programme of Action. Comments on these targets and actions made by participants in the forum are included as footnotes.

* UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-IB/1/1.

4. In addition, the note contains some introductory paragraphs, in line with annex III of decision VII/30, describing: (i) the overall vision or long-term goal of the programme of work, and (ii) the relationship between the programme of work including its targets and other processes, in particular the Barbados Programme of Action, the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit and the Millennium Development Goals.

5. A first draft of the note was sent out in May/June 2004 to the experts selected for the AHTEG for their review and comments, some of which are reproduced as footnotes in the present note and others reflected in the annex.

6. The AHTEG is expected to consider the introduction to the programme of work in section II and the elements of the programme of work proposed in the present note and develop its proposals for the programme of work and related draft recommendations. As called for in its mandate, the AHTEG will be guided by the Strategic Plan, the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (see annex II below) and the Millennium Development Goals; and taking into account, *inter alia*, the Convention's 2010 target and related decisions, the ongoing programmes of work of the Convention on thematic and cross-cutting issues, work being carried out in the framework of the Barbados Programme of Action, and the specificities of islands as compared to mainlands. The experts will also take into account its review of the note by the Executive Secretary on the "Status and trends of, and major threats to, island biodiversity" (UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-IB/1/3), in the "Review of the outcomes of the regional and inter-regional preparatory meeting for the 10-year review of the Barbados programme of Action," (UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-IB/1/2) and in the "Review of ongoing work on different thematic areas and cross-cutting issues under the Convention on Biological Diversity and related work being carried out in the framework of other processes" (UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-IB/1/4).

7. Furthermore, as stated in its mandate, the expert group will develop in the context of the global-outcome-and process-oriented targets related indicators pertaining to the priority actions; identify relevant actors and partners for the implementation of the programme of work, synergies with other programmes and ways to draw on existing best practices; and propose ways to link the programme of work with other relevant initiatives. The Expert Group may also wish to draft some guidance for the implementation of this programme of work in the form of recommendations for submissions to the tenth meeting of SBSTTA (see annex III below).

II. PROPOSED ELEMENTS FOR A PROGRAMME OF WORK ON ISLAND ^{1/} BIODIVERSITY

A. Introduction ^{2/}

8. The Earth is home to over 100,000 islands, which host more than 500 million inhabitants and exercise jurisdiction on more than one sixth of the Earth's total area. Islands, in particular small islands, constitute a special category of ecosystems from both the environmental and the development points of view.

^{1/} Islands may be classified into those within land masses and those within seas. The focus of this programme of work is on islands surrounded by saltwater, bearing in mind that many features of sea islands are also shared by non-marine islands.

^{2/} This section draws heavily on the special volume of *INSULA*, the International Journal of Island Affairs, published in February 2004.

9. As a result of their geographical isolation, remoteness from the continent and small size relative to the mainland, they have developed species of fauna and flora, through phenomena such as evolution and radiation, endowed with special traits. Thus, islands have a large number of unique species of terrestrial, freshwater and marine plants, animals and microorganisms. As a result, they make a relatively high contribution to global biodiversity. Islands also host a rich cultural diversity.

10. However, in no other place biodiversity is *per se* so fragile. Species that have evolved on islands have done so in competition with a relatively low number of other species and are, therefore, susceptible to alien species invasions. Populations of island fauna and flora tend to be small in proportion to the size of island territories, and species often become concentrated in special small areas, where they are subject to various natural and anthropogenic pressures that endanger their survival. Islands have many rare, endangered and threatened species. They are thus home to many hotspots and have the highest proportion of recorded species extinctions.

11. As articulated in chapter 17 of Agenda 21 and emphasized in the Barbados Programme of Action as well as in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, small island developing States experience even more specific challenges and vulnerabilities arising from the interplay of such socio-economic and environmental factors as small populations and economies, weak institutional capacity in both the public and the private sector, remoteness from international markets, susceptibility to natural disasters and climate change (including, in particular, sea-level rise from global warming and extreme weather events), fragility of land and marine ecosystems (particularly affected by tourism development and unsustainable agriculture), high cost of transportation, limited diversification in production and exports, dependence on international markets, export concentration, and income volatility and vulnerability to exogenous economic shocks, greater volatility than those of other countries.

12. Islands constitute excellent natural laboratories for the conservation and management of biodiversity. They are self-contained ecosystems with well defined geographical limits that encapsulate fundamental ecological processes and interactions. Because of their scale, these ecosystems offer scope for holistic management of biodiversity. Small island developing States, in particular, are microcosms of their continental counterparts where strategies, policies and management regimes for sustainable development can be applied, tested and refined; where the components of cause and effect are more readily assessed, outcomes more rapidly seen and results more specifically tangible. Focusing efforts and resources on the conservation and sustainable use of island biodiversity and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of island genetic resources can provide rapid and disproportionate yields in terms of progress towards achievement of the 2010 biodiversity target and related global targets and the development of management approaches for extrapolation globally.

13. The vulnerabilities of small islands require not only special but urgent attention from their inhabitants and the world community.

14. Although islands are unique environments in their own right, they incorporate all the existing thematic areas considered under the Convention, i.e., forests, inland waters, agricultural land, dry and sub-humid lands, marine and coastal ecosystems, and mountain ecosystems. As a result, the goals and activities contained in the existing programmes of work for each of these thematic areas, as well as the targets and sub-targets being developed for each of these programmes of work and the related indicators for assessing progress, should also be applied and implemented, whenever appropriate, in island ecosystems, bearing in mind the special conditions and urgency of actions needed in such ecosystems. Other work, including guidelines, guiding principles, work or other tools developed on cross-cutting issues, such as the ecosystem approach, invasive alien species, protected areas, incentive measures, traditional knowledge under Article 8(j) and related provisions of the Convention, access and benefit-sharing, technology transfer and cooperation, monitoring and indicators, and impact assessment, should be applied as appropriate.

15. Information and input from international forums should also be taken into account, including particularly: (i) chapter 17 of Agenda 21; (ii) the Barbados Programme of Action and follow-up activities including the outcome of the Mauritius meeting and its preparatory meetings; (iii) the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, with its-SIDS related targets (see annex II); and (iv) the Millennium Development Goals, in particular goal 7 (“Ensure environmental sustainability”).

B. Overall purpose and scope of the programme of work

16. The overall purpose of the programme of work on island biodiversity is the significant reduction of island biodiversity loss by 2010 and beyond at global, regional and national levels, through the implementation of the three main objectives of the Convention, for the benefit of all forms of life on islands and, in particular, as a contribution to poverty alleviation and the sustainable development of small island developing States. The implementation of the programme of work thereby contributes to the objectives of the Strategic Plan of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Barbados Programme of Action, the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the Millennium Development Goals.

17. The programme of work recognizes the uniqueness of island ecosystems and focuses on addressing characteristics and problems specific to island biological diversity that make island ecosystems particularly vulnerable to almost all types of natural, technological and human-related threats. It also recognizes that island biodiversity is of global significance and, as such, merits increased attention at the global scale as its conservation and sustainable use will produce global benefits. Furthermore, it acknowledges that islands are microcosms that offer great scope for the application, testing and refinement of a wide range of conservation tools and approaches, including the ecosystem approach.

18. The programme of work seeks to avoid duplication with existing thematic work programmes and other existing initiatives of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Parties are encouraged to apply, where appropriate, the objectives and activities from these work programmes to the conservation of island biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components, and the equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of island genetic resources.

19. By identifying synergies between this programme of work and other thematic programmes, conventions and agreements, Parties can strengthen cooperation and partnerships at the national, regional and international levels. Such partnerships should be broad-based and ensure the sharing of trained personnel at the regional level, and the involvement and participation of all stakeholders, including indigenous and local communities, civil society and the private sector.

20. Although this programme of work addresses island ecosystems collectively, it places emphasis on oceanic islands and particularly on small island developing States (SIDS) because these systems are often perceived to be the most at risk.

21. In addition, this programme of work responds, *inter alia*, to the call made by SIDS, on the occasion of their regional and interregional preparatory meetings for the Mauritius meeting, that island biodiversity should be addressed under the Convention on Biological Diversity in a manner that responds to the unique characteristics of SIDS, in particular their vulnerabilities, and to the threats related to climate change and land degradation. Consequently, the programme of work is also linked to the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

22. The programme of work is intended to assist Parties in establishing national programmes of work with targeted goals, objectives, and actions, with specific actors, timeframes, inputs, and expected measurable outputs. Parties may select from, adapt, and/or add to, the goals, objectives and actions suggested in the current programme of work according to particular national and local conditions, and their level of development. Implementation of this programme of work should take into account the

ecosystem approach of the Convention on Biological Diversity. In determining national programmes of work, Parties are encouraged to pay due regard to the socio-economic, cultural and environmental costs and benefits of various options. In addition, Parties are encouraged to consider the use of appropriate technologies, sources of finance, and technical cooperation, and to ensure, through appropriate actions, the means to meet the particular challenges and demands of their island ecosystems.

C. Suggested programme elements, goals, and targets

PROGRAMME ELEMENT 1: Direct actions for conservation, sustainable use and benefit-sharing

Goal 1. To promote the conservation of island ecosystems, habitats and biomes ^{3/}

Target 1.1: By 2010, at least 10 per cent of each of the island biomes is effectively conserved to maintain island biogeography.

Target 1.2: By 2010, terrestrially and 2012 in marine areas, comprehensive, ecologically representative and effectively managed systems of protected areas designed to conserve viable populations of all endemic and endangered species on islands are established, with full respect for the rights of indigenous and local communities, and with their full and effective participation. ^{4/}

Target 1.3: By 2010, [xx] ^{5/} per cent of degraded island ecosystem is rehabilitated or restored. ^{6/}

Goal 2. To promote the conservation of species diversity

Target 2.1: By [2010], populations of [all] endangered species are restored, maintained, or their decline reduced. ^{7/}

Target 2.2: By [2010], status of [all known] threatened species is improved.

Target 2.3: By [2010], all endemic species are protected.

Goal 3. To promote the conservation of genetic diversity, in particular through the preservation and maintenance of traditional knowledge and practices

Target 3.1: By 2010, the genetic diversity of domesticated and wild biodiversity is conserved, and the associated knowledge of indigenous and local communities maintained. ^{8/}

^{3/} Taking into account target 5 of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) “Protection of 50 per cent of the most important areas for plant diversity assured” and GSPC target 6, “At least 30 per cent of production lands managed consistent with the conservation of plant diversity”.

^{4/} As a contribution to the 2010 target, taking into account targets 1.1 and 1.2 in annex II of decision VII/30, targets 4 to 8 of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, the targets under element 1 and goal 2.2 of the programme of work on protected areas contained in the annex to decision VII/28.

^{5/} Values in square brackets require consideration of their scientific basis and feasibility

^{6/} Reference to appendix 1 of decision VII/5 for coral reefs; importance for migratory species; agricultural production; forest biodiversity utilization etc.

^{7/} Taking into account GSPC target 7 “60 per cent of the world’s threatened species conserved *in situ*,” and GSPC target 8 “60 per cent of threatened plant species in accessible *ex situ* collections, preferably in the country of origin, and 10 per cent of them included in recovery and restoration programmes.”

^{8/} Taking into account GSPC target 13 “The decline of plant resources, and associated indigenous and local knowledge, innovations and practices that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, halted; “ and GSPC target 9 “70 per cent of the genetic diversity of crops and other major socio-economically valuable plant species conserved, and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained.”

Goal 4. To promote sustainable use and consumption

Target 4.1: By [2010], [all] biodiversity-based products are derived from sources that are sustainably managed, ^{9/} and cash crops/fisheries are managed consistent with the Addis Ababa Principles and related codes such as the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

Target 4.2: By 2010, unsustainable consumption of biological resources, including tourism, and their impacts upon biodiversity are reduced.

Target 4.3: By [2010], no species of wild flora or fauna is endangered by international trade.

Target 4.4: By 2010 an interdisciplinary, participatory approach is applied at the appropriate levels of management and governance related to the use of island biodiversity.

Goal 5. To reduce pressures from habitat loss, land use change and degradation, tourism and unsustainable water use

Target 5.1: By 2010, the rate of loss and degradation of natural habitats is decreased.

Goal 6. To control threats from invasive alien species

Target 6.1: By 2010, pathways of [100] of the major potential invasive alien species are controlled.

Target 6.2: By 2010, management plans are in place for [100] of the major alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species.

Target 6.3: By 2010, the Guiding Principles of the Convention on Biological Diversity for the Prevention, Introduction and Mitigation of Impacts of Alien Species that Threaten Ecosystems, Habitats or Species are integrated into planning process, management practices and/or legislation.

Goal 7. To address challenges to biodiversity from climate change, pollution and natural disasters

Target 7.1: By [2010], resilience of the components of biodiversity to adapt to climate change is maintained and enhanced.

Target 7.2: By 2010, pollution and its impacts on biodiversity are reduced.

Target 7.3: By 2010, the management of the risks of natural disasters is mainstreamed into national planning processes.

Goal 8. To maintain capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services and support livelihoods

Target 8.1: By [2010], capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services are maintained.

Target 8.2: By 2010, biological resources that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, especially of poor people are maintained.

PROGRAMME ELEMENT 2: Means of implementation and enabling environment for conservation, sustainable use and fair and equitable benefit sharing

^{9/} Taking into account GSPC target 12 “30 per cent of plant-based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed.”

Goal 9. To enhance the legal, policy, institutional and economic framework

Target 9.1: By [2010], the guidelines and guiding principles adopted by the Conference of the Parties, in particular the ecosystem approach, the guidelines on integration of biodiversity into environmental impact assessment and strategic environment assessment procedures, sustainable use, sustainable tourism and invasive alien species, are integrated into the national legal, policy, institutional and economic frameworks and applied in economic sectors (including tourism and mining, in particular) that directly impact island biodiversity.

Target 9.2: By [2010], diversification of agricultural production is promoted to enhance efficient and sustainable agricultural production and ensure food security.

Goal 10. To maintain socio-cultural diversity of indigenous and local communities

Target 10.1: By [2010], traditional knowledge, innovations and practices are protected.

Target 10.2: By [2010], the rights of indigenous and local communities over their traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, including their rights to benefit-sharing are protected.

Goal 11. To ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources

Target 11.1: By [2010], all transfers of genetic resources are in line with the Convention on Biological Diversity, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and other applicable agreements.

Target 11.2: By [2010], benefits arising from the commercial and other utilization of genetic resources are shared with the countries providing such resources.

Goal 12. To strengthen regional cooperation and international partnerships in support of conservation of island biodiversity

Target 12.1: By [2010], the number of cooperative agreements among island States and territories within each region is increased by [xx] per cent and their objective in the process of being implemented.

PROGRAMME ELEMENT 3: Supporting actions for conservation, sustainable use and benefit-sharing**Goal 13: To improve financial, human, scientific, technical and technological capacity to implement the Convention^{10/}**

Target 13.1: New and additional financial resources are transferred to SIDS, to allow for the effective implementation of this programme of work and, in general, their commitments under the Convention described in their national biodiversity strategies and action plans, in accordance with Article 20.

Target 13.2: Technology is transferred to SIDS, to allow for the effective implementation of their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with its Article 20, paragraph 4.^{11/}

^{10/} Taking into account decision VII/28, goal 3.4, and the target.

^{11/} Taking into account decision VII/29 and indigenous and local communities knowledge in accordance with Article 8(j) and related provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Target 13.3: By [2010], the number of trained people working with appropriate facilities on island biodiversity is increased, according to national and regional needs, to achieve the goals of the programme of work.

Goal 14. To strengthen work on identification, monitoring and assessment of island biodiversity important for conservation

Target 14.1: By [2010], [all] components of island biodiversity important for conservation are inventoried, and the understanding of the threats posed to these components and responses to these threats is improved, including, in particular, information pertaining to vulnerabilities of island, their resilience, preparedness to natural disasters, adaptation to climate change and mitigation of its impacts, including sea-level rise.

Target 14.2: By [2010], national and regional systems are established to enable effective monitoring of progress in implementing the programme of work.

Target 14.3: By [2010], the infrastructure for data and information collection, management and exchange is improved.

Goal 15. To increase communication, public education, participation and awareness of island inhabitants and tourists visiting islands in relation to island biodiversity ^{12/}

Target 15.1: By [2010], public awareness, understanding and appreciation of benefits of island biological diversity are significantly increased.

^{12/} Taking into account the Global Initiative on Communication, Education and Public Awareness of the Convention on Biological Diversity, giving particular attention to matters relating to the conservation and sustainable use of island biodiversity.

Annex I

TARGETS AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS FOR THE PROGRAMME OF WORK AS PROPOSED THROUGH THE ISLAND BIODIVERSITY ELECTRONIC FORUM AND REVISED AFTER A FIRST ROUND OF CONSULTATIONS WITH EXPERTS SELECTED FOR THE AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP ON ISLAND BIODIVERSITY ^{13/}

I. INTRODUCTION

The following list of targets and actions to be undertaken to meet the goals and targets of the programme of work was prepared through the Island Biodiversity Electronic Forum held in March and April 2004. The first list was circulated among the experts selected as members of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Island Biodiversity. In addition to the list of targets and actions, the experts made the following recommendations that could be taken into account when the AHTEG meets to carry out its work:

- (a) Reference should be made, when appropriate, to relevant multilateral environmental agreements critical for island biodiversity;
- (b) Reference should also be made to the Strategic Plan of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Plan of Implementation and the Millennium Development Goals of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;
- (c) There is a need to remain focused on island specificity and not try to reflect all the issues of the Convention on Biological Diversity covered in other programmes of work in the island programme of work, except if they are really relevant to islands;
- (d) The integrated nature of island development needs to be stressed;
- (e) It is very important to address in the document, as a need, not as a possibility, for islands to adopt the ecosystem approach, as the way to achieve the Integrated Management, not only for coastal zones, but also for watersheds, wetlands and terrestrial ecosystems;
- (f) It is necessary to give more emphasis to the terrestrial ecosystems in the programme of work, because it is unbalanced with respect to coastal and marine areas. In many islands, there are great biodiversity values in terrestrial environments, and the main biodiversity nucleus is in the mountain areas, and there are great number of communities living there and working on biodiversity conservation;
- (g) When coastal and marine ecosystems are dealt with in the programme of work, the reference is to mangrove and coral reefs. It is clear both ecosystems are very important in relation to biodiversity conservation and management, but there is a need to consider another ecosystems and habitat as seagrass and coastal lagoons, a very important cross-reference with the programme of work on marine and coastal biodiversity;
- (h) When considering in the programme of work main economical sectors, it is necessary to add agriculture and mining exploitation, because in some islands, at least in the Caribbean area, both of them are basic sectors, with high impact on biodiversity; and
- (i) There are several issues that require more emphasis in the programme of work, such as:

^{13/} The recommendations as well as the targets and actions in this annex are reproduced as they were submitted by participants in the Island Biodiversity Electronic Forum and the members of the AHTEG, with very minor editing. Likewise, the footnotes in this annex contain comments made by participants in the forum, as they were received by the Secretariat.

- Capacity-building (institutional and human resources);
- Strengthening of the scientific research capability;
- Environmental education and public awareness;
- Ecosystem and species recovery and restoration programmes;
- Contingency plans and early warning systems;
- Biosafety;
- Aquaculture and mariculture, and the introduction of related exotic species;
- Required financial support; and
- Potential risks from maritime activities, including transport.

II. PROGRAMME ELEMENTS, PROPOSED TARGETS AND ACTIONS

PROGRAMME ELEMENT 1: Direct actions for conservation, sustainable use and benefit-sharing

Possible targets

- 1.(a) *By 2010, representative and effectively managed systems of protected areas are established. 14/*
- 1.(b) *[By ...] adopt measures to prevent over-exploitation of resources or destructive practices. 15/*
- 1.(c) *[By 2008] promote sustainable watershed management including farming systems. 16/*
- 1.(d) *[By 2008] effectively prevent, early detect, provide a rapid response and eradicate invasive alien species. 17/*
- 1.(e) *[By 2008] minimize the vulnerability to and impact of climate change and sea level rise.*
- 1.(f) *[By ...] Minimize land degradation and land based sources of pollution that degrade the health of terrestrial, marine and coastal ecosystems.*
- 1.(g) *[By 2008] develop and implement plans for the development of eco-tourism facilities. 18/*

14/ This target deals with protected areas. Another target should be developed dealing with island biodiversity outside protected areas. The section seems marine/coastal focused with minimal attention to terrestrial ecosystems.

15/ The focus is mainly on fisheries. There is a need to address the problem of destructive practices of aquaculture and other coastal activities. Consideration of impacts of marine bioprospecting could also be added and the use of EIA and other assessment could be useful tools to be considered. The foregoing section focuses almost entirely on the marine/coastal environment. In practice, many of the big issues are in the terrestrial environment, which is where the highest levels of species endemism and threat lie. It is recommended to balance the emphasis by collapsing the fisheries recommendations into one umbrella recommendation and introducing equivalent recommendations regarding the sustainable management and protection of terrestrial natural resources.

16/ Need for a cross-reference with the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity focused on island areas. If reference is provided some of the activities listed below could be deleted.

17/ Need for a cross reference to Guiding Principles of Invasive Alien Species contained in decisions VI/23. if reference is made, some activities below could be deleted

1.(h) [By 2008] reduce the negative impact of tourism and outdoor activities on island ecosystems, as well as the development of associated human settlement facilities. 19/

1.(i) [By 2008] ensure that regulations and systems are in place (including *sui generis* systems) to regulate access to genetic resources and ensure that benefits arising from their utilization are fairly and equitably shared..

1.(j) [By 2008] develop, with full respect for the rights of indigenous and local communities, and with their full and effective participation, gene banks 20/ on wild species as well as on traditional and exotic crop species, and land races that are important for conservation and protection of island biodiversity including for food sources enhancement and food security.

1.(k) [By....] develop and apply active conservation measures for the reestablishment of endangered species.

Possible direct actions for the protection, recovery and restoration of island biological diversity 21/

Establishment of protected areas

1.1. Identify island areas containing endemic and endangered species, important for conservation.

1.2. Increase representation of different island ecological regions in protected areas. 22/

1.3. Maintain at least 60 per cent of the threatened species in protected or managed *in situ* areas. 23/

1.4. Establish representative system of protected areas including resilient networks of marine and coastal protected areas. 24/

1.5. Identify, with full respect for the rights of indigenous and local communities, and with their full and effective participation, biodiversity hotspots, representative ecosystems, critical habitats, and species for conservation and prepare a management/conservation plan for those areas, with a focus on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

1.6. Recognize and promote the establishment of a broad set of marine, coastal and terrestrial protected area governance types, including innovative types such as co-managed protected areas and indigenous and local community conserved areas.

1.7. Determine the responsibility and describe the benefits indigenous and local communities and fishing groups to protect mangroves and coral reefs from encroachment and destruction.

1.8. Formulate appropriate community-based management plans and promote the recovery of damaged reefs, wetlands and estuaries through identifying and reinforcing natural restoration processes and, where feasible, other sustainable management and enhancement techniques.

1.9. Strengthen capacities for *ex situ* conservation activities

18/ Need for cross reference with Guidelines on Sustainable Tourism of the Convention on Biological Diversity as per decision VII/14.

19/ There is the need to add goal/target/activities for other forms of development (large scale) e.g. Infrastructure, offshore fishing , etc.

20/ Specify whether it should be in the countries or under a regional regime.

21/ Need for cross-reference with decision VII/28 on implementation of the programme of work on protected areas paying particular attention to the conservation of endemic and endangered species on islands. If reference is made, some of the targets and activities below could be deleted.

22/ Mentions of protected areas can be cross-referenced with decision VII/28 on protected areas.

23/ This is fine for plants in the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, but not necessarily applicable to animals and microorganisms.

24/ Reference can be made to decision VII/5 annex I, programme element 3.

Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary

1.10. In collaboration with IUCN and other relevant organizations and initiatives, and in consultation with indigenous and local communities and relevant authorities, document and disseminate information including guidelines and best-practices for formulation of operational and participatory management plans. 25/

Possible direct actions for the promotion of the sustainable use of island biological resources 26/

Prevention of overexploitation

1.11. Prepare and implement measures, including national and regional fisheries plans to regulate and prevent over-exploitation of national and regional resources, including fish and establish, with full respect for the rights of indigenous and local communities, and with their full and effective participation, appropriate fisheries exclusion areas for the recovery of threatened and severely depleted species. 27/

1.12. Establish effective fisheries monitoring, control and surveillance systems at the national and regional levels.

1.13. Reinforce measures to control the trade in illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) and endangered fish species and other biological resources (e.g. corals) in accordance with CITES. 28/

1.14. Establish and ensure compliance with bans on destructive fishing gear [including spear-gun fishing] 29/ and other activities that severely impact components of island ecosystems.

1.15. Support and strengthen the capacity of indigenous and local communities to protect island ecosystems from destructive fishing, including commercial trawling.

1.16. Promote new techniques such as FADs (fish aggregating devices) in order to alleviate fishing pressures on coral reefs.

1.17. Allocate fishery resources according to limited entry, user's rights and zoning, drawing on traditional community structures and management systems, and with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities. 30/

1.18. Promote conservation and restoration of coastal habitats and wetlands important to fisheries recruitment and to the health of fringing reefs.

1.19. Recognize, protect and encourage indigenous and local communities' customary use of island biodiversity in accordance with Article 10(c) of the Convention.

25/ This activity was already identified and included in the programme of work on protected areas (see decision VII/28).

26/ The current focus is mainly on fisheries. There is a need to address the problem of destructive practices of aquaculture and other coastal activities. Consideration of impacts of marine bioprospecting could also be added and the use of EIA and other assessment could be useful tools to be considered. The foregoing section focuses almost entirely on the marine/coastal environment. In practice, many of the big issues are in the terrestrial environment, which is where the highest levels of species endemism and threat lie. It is recommended to balance the emphasis by collapsing the fisheries recommendations into one umbrella recommendation and introducing equivalent recommendations regarding the sustainable management and protection of terrestrial natural resources.

27/ Proposed deletion.

28/ No wild endangered species from islands subject to unsustainable exploitation by international trade – it should be clear that CITES is referred only to the international trade on endangered species, and probably should be necessary to adopt some measures or regulations dealing with domestic trade.

29/ Need to explain why this particular activity is specified. Spear gun fishing is not as destructive as other means.

30/ This may not be appropriate for all SIDS. The method of limiting access will vary by countries.

- 1.20 Undertake education, capacity-building and training activities at all levels and including indigenous and local communities (ILCs) and which will assist with the [promotion and dissemination of][adoption of] sound methods of fishery.
- 1.21 Promote sustainable land use and water resources management practices in relation to human livelihoods needs. ^{31/}
- 1.22 Remove subsidies that encourage unsustainable exploitation of island biodiversity or irreversible loss of critical habitat.
- 1.23 Strengthen national fisheries systems and enforcement.
- 1.24 Develop links and synergies with other United Nations and regional processes that deal with the elimination of destructive fishing.
- 1.25 Promote integrated coastal zone management of fisheries which also takes into account the impact of marine pollution on fish stocks.
- 1.26 Establish effective monitor, control and surveillance systems to ensure compliance with regulations by users of fish resources.
- 1.27 Adopt and apply strategies to enhance efficient and sustainable agricultural production and ensure food security through, *inter alia*, diversification of agriculture; alternative uses of crops; improved husbandry, irrigation and water management; aquaculture; and the use of appropriate modern technologies.

Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary

- 1.28 Collect and disseminate planning and management tools/guidelines and other appropriate mechanisms to assist with the preparation of integrated marine and coastal areas management plans and to promote environmentally sound practices and forms of land use, watershed management and development. Facilitate links between SIDS and international agencies responsible for marine and coastal fisheries management.
- 1.29 Invite FAO to disseminate the report of the 2005 FAO conference of SIDS ministers of agriculture on priority actions for an enhanced contribution of agriculture, forestry and fisheries to SIDS sustainable development policies.

Sustainable watershed management including farming systems ^{32/}

- 1.30 Establish strong collaborative partnerships and networks at the local, national, regional and international levels in order to undertake studies and projects addressing sustainable agriculture in islands. ^{33/}
- 1.31 Promote the revitalization of sustainable farming systems aiming to increase forest cover and arrest soil degradation through tree planting, agroforestry techniques, soils conservation practices with the full involvement of concerned indigenous and local communities, and always avoiding negative side effects to biodiversity.
- 1.32 Promote the recognition and respect of knowledge, practices and innovations of indigenous and local communities in the development or revitalization of sustainable farming systems.

^{31/} There is a bias on fishing. Some reference to terrestrial and the integration can be helpful.

^{32/} Need for a cross-reference with the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity focused on island areas. If reference is provided some of the activities listed below could be deleted.

^{33/} A reference to organic agriculture, Genetically Modified (GM) and non-GM crops should be added. Also a reference to the Biosafety Protocol should be added.

1.33 Develop sustainable agro-forestry systems to: raise and diversify production, improve soil fertility, prevent soil loss and environmental degradation, and reduce dependence on external inputs.

1.34 Provide an enabling environment and support capacity building of indigenous and local communities to have fair and equitable access to the market in order to increase their options for sustainable livelihoods.

1.35 Address land tenure issues relevant to the development of sustainable farming systems.

1.36 Maintain and promote traditional and sustainable farming systems, and associated traditional knowledge, of island areas enhancing biodiversity and creating singular landscapes.

1.37 Complete a survey and document all traditional crops and associated traditional knowledge.

Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary

1.38 In collaboration with IUCN and FAO, and in consultation with indigenous and local communities and relevant authorities, collect and disseminate [information] [document guidelines]/toolkit geared towards development of agro-forestry systems and of mechanism for the assessment of carrying capacities.

Possible direct actions for the prevention and mitigation of the negative impacts of key threats to island biological diversity ^{34/}

Prevention, early detection and eradication of invasive alien species

1.39 Develop a national inventory of main invasive alien species.

1.40 Strengthen legislative and normative national frameworks and design effective control systems.

1.41 Develop and implement protocols to detect, evaluate and control the importation of alien and invasive alien species.

1.42 Develop and implement protocols to detect, evaluate and control the translocation of island endemics to different islands as well as new locations in the same islands not scientifically justified, including ornamentals for gardening programmes.

1.43 Perform an assessment of the economic impacts of invasive alien species, identify the most harmful organism to biological diversity, then carry out a risk analysis in at least 50 per cent of all SIDS. ^{35/}

1.44 Develop and improve the scientific capability, institutional support, and infrastructure resources to perform risk assessments for (a) proposed deliberate introductions of alien species and (b) importation of goods that may accidentally include alien species (e.g. insects on food shipments).

1.45 Develop and implement contingency plans for the early detection, rapid response, control and eradication of invasive alien species in both terrestrial and marine ecosystems.

1.46 Identify abundance and population tendencies, habitat (natural and semi-natural) biology (especially xenotypes), reproduction and propagation features of alien species.

^{34/} Need for a cross reference to Guiding Principles on Invasive Alien Species contained in decision VI/23. If reference is made, some activities below could be deleted.

^{35/} Alternative proposed: (process used in the Pacific) – an assessment of the problems (tech review), what is a strategy, what is a work plan to meet the strategy (following endorsement of the former), then implementation plan.

1.47 Identify the aspects related to the invasion processes in the design of biodiversity conservation strategies.

1.48 Develop, based on inventories, rapid and other assessments applied at the regional, national and local levels, an improved understanding of the threats to island waters ecosystems and responses of different types of island ecosystems to these threats.

1.49 Develop and implement management plans for control of selected invasive alien species, control of all alien species within specified sites, including elimination or control of causes that led to the introduction and spreading of these species and ecological restoration of sites from which alien species have been eradicated or reduced to low numbers.

1.50 Establish an effective quarantine control system at national borders to prevent the entrance of invasive alien species that could hinder/damage island ecosystems, induce biodiversity loss and jeopardize crop and livestock development.

1.51 Establish (a) quarantine barriers to protect islands within nation states (i.e. in the case of islands that are part of a larger state) and (b) supra-national or regional quarantine barriers, so that clusters of island States can collaborate to protect themselves from invasive alien species.

1.52 Prevent spread of invasive alien species by identifying pathways, implementing codes of conduct to regulate intentional introductions and prevent unintentional introductions, identifying gaps in international and national regulatory frameworks, and developing ways to overcome constraints.

1.53 Through survey and compilation of existing records, collect baseline data of existing native and endemic species in order to better understand which alien and invasive alien species populations have become established.

1.54 Foster collaboration between national/international entities involved in protecting biodiversity and these involved in protecting agriculture. ^{36/}

1.55 Collect baseline data on presence and effects of invasive alien species. Consider practicing collective enlightened self-interest through regional sharing of national pest lists and data on pests intercepted and their pathways.

1.56 Promote and implement relevant guidelines and/or guiding principles in relation to invasive alien species making use of the expert guidance available, including the implementation of decision VI/23 and VII/13 on invasive alien species of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

1.57 Promote regional mechanisms for supporting communication, rapid response, risk assessment procedures and coordination of regulatory measures to counter the spread of invasive alien species across island chains or groups.

1.58 Develop participatory information and decisions-making mechanisms involving civil society, indigenous peoples, local communities and key economic sectors.

1.59 Establish education and awareness programmes on invasive alien species endangering biodiversity.

Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary

1.60 Facilitate and support the work of the Cooperative Initiative on Invasive Alien Species on Islands (initiated by NZ/ISSG/IUCN under the GISP umbrella and endorsed by the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties) to address invasive alien species in islands.

^{36/} This is beginning to get under way in Pacific islands through collaboration between South Pacific Regional Environment Programme. It is necessary because the world system for border protection quarantine involves agricultural entities with little or no consideration for threats to conservation.

1.61 Request the World Trade Organization (WTO), under its work programme on small economies, to specifically address the issue of invasive alien species and to develop specific measures to protect island biodiversity, in accordance with the decisions of the Conference of the Parties. ^{37/}

1.62 Establish linkages are required to other legal instruments including WTO, Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) (now under way with invasive alien species) and other relevant to the Mediterranean and Indian Oceans, and Caribbean.

1.63 Document and disseminate [protocols][information] on controlling the importation and evaluation of alien and invasive species.

1.64 Solicit assistance from International Maritime Organization (IMO) in the assessment and compilation of best practices geared towards control of ballast water, minimization in the movement of invasive alien species, and spread of invasive alien species through hull fouling.

1.65 Support regional and global databases providing comprehensive information on invasive species.

1.66 Encourage assistance by regional international entities in development of regional risk assessments and capacity-building to assist countries in addressing the rigorous requirements of IPPC/WTO for raising barriers to keep pests out.

1.67 Support regional efforts at biocontrol of plant species that negatively affect multiple countries/islands groups. ^{38/}

Climate change and sea-level rise

1.68 Expedite the formulation and promote the implementation of disaster preparedness and mitigation strategies in islands.

1.69 Identify and implement effective early warning systems and strategies that address longer-term hazards (hurricanes, flood, and tropical storms) and phenomena such as climate change, sea-level rise, as well as the El Niño and La Niña phenomena.

1.70 Strengthen efforts to preserve and restore mangrove areas and coral reefs that provide protection against tidal surges and storm damage.

1.71 Explicitly include adaptation measures into conservation planning and strategies that strengthen local level resilience to climate change.

1.72 Develop monitoring techniques to identify regression processes caused by climatic change on endangered species and consider selection of new sites with adequate climatic conditions in the recovery activities.

1.73 Create viable networks of ecologically connected protected areas that are resilient to climate change. ^{39/}

1.74 Monitor and exchange information on the impacts of global climate change on island biodiversity through interactive and moderated networks.

^{37/} Proposed deletion.

^{38/} There needs to be a place for fostering and implementing restoration activities. Most of the proposed activities listed this far are to do with protection, prevention and mitigation from biodiversity decline. There is a growing number of activities world-wide to be classified as restoration. They range from the eradication of an invasive alien species such as a rodent to allow the biota to recover, through the reintroduction and establishment of extirpated flora and fauna, to the reconstruction of ecological communities through restoration of processes. An example of the latter is the re-establishment of seabird communities, thereby re-setting the source of soil fertility in many island ecosystems.

^{39/} Proposed deletion. This is already included in the programme of work on protected area.

1.75 Consider and address the possible impacts on island biodiversity of the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol's flexible mechanisms such as Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), Joint Implementation Emissions Trading (especially CDM projects involving afforestation and reforestation).

1.80 Contribute to the joint Programme of Action for Water and Climate.

Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary

1.81 Assist relevant United Nations agencies with the incorporation of island biodiversity aspects into the development of disaster preparedness and recovery plans for SIDS.

1.82 In collaboration with the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) assess and present a paper on the necessity to develop regional contingency and response plans for groups of SIDS in terms of potential risk and vulnerabilities mitigations.

Land degradation and land based sources of pollution

1.83 Establish [effective][stricter] and feasible regulations on pesticides and herbicides in order to minimize their use also through the ratification and implementation of relevant international and regional conventions.

1.84 Enact and effectively enforce regulations on land-based sources of pollution emphasizing, in cooperation with municipalities, on the existing waste treatment (including waste waters and oil and fuel pollution) and construction of new facilities.

1.85 Prepare integrated plans of both terrestrial and marine environments to prevent their degradation and to promote the sustainable utilization of the natural resource base.

1.86 Develop stricter measures to control or consider halting, the expansion of aquaculture/mariculture activities that contribute to the degradation of land and coastal areas (especially mangroves) and promote the rehabilitation and restoration of such areas. ^{40/}

1.87 Integrate the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, as appropriate, by undertaking initiatives specifically addressing the vulnerabilities of SIDS.

1.88 Integrate global targets and initiatives around water, sanitation and health (WASH).

1.89 Develop/strengthen national capacity for water quality, *inter alia*, through the Hydrological Cycle Observation System and seek support from the World Meteorological Organization.

Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary

1.90 Collect and disseminate [information on practices] [guidelines on mechanisms] for the development of emissions standards in the various media.

Possible direct actions for the promotion of sustainable tourism development, including eco-tourism activities

Development of ecotourism facilities ^{41/}

1.91 Identify sites with great potential and willingness for ecotourism in collaboration ^{42/} with relevant stakeholders such as local entrepreneurs and indigenous and local communities.

^{40/} This should be done taking into account activities being developed under the programme of work on marine and coastal biodiversity.

^{41/} Need for cross reference with the Guidelines of the Convention on Biological Diversity on Sustainable Tourism as per decision VII/14.

1.92 Elaborate and implement strategies and results-oriented action plans to promote socially and culturally responsible ecotourism

1.93 Develop and implement sustainable tourism development plans, community based initiatives on sustainable tourism, and build the necessary capacities of civil society and stakeholders in this regard, while protecting culture and traditions and effectively conserving and managing natural resources.

1.94 Apply the Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development for new developments and tourism activities.

1.95 Strengthen local capacity for sustainable tourism management, in order to ensure that benefits derived from tourism activities are shared among relevant stakeholders, including indigenous and local communities while preserving biodiversity.

1.96 In areas where tourism already exists, elaborate management and control tourism programs to integrate tourism development and biodiversity conservation.

1.97 Ensure the adequate inclusion of biodiversity dimensions in socio-economic development programmes, because of the role of planning in the biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.

1.98 Promote environmental education and public awareness.

Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary

1.99 Ensure that the Convention on Biological Diversity [takes account of SIDS-specific] [respects] cultural identities in the implementation of the guidelines on tourism.

1.100 In collaboration with the relevant organizations (including the World Tourism Organization) collect and disseminate [information on activities related to ecotourism] a paper on harnessing of ecotourism in SIDS and in other island areas.

Negative impact of tourism, outdoor activities and associated human settlement facilities ^{43/}

1.101 Adopt integrated planning strategies, policies and implementation plans for environmental and socio-cultural impact assessments for all tourism projects and cultural impact assessment for all large tourism operations.

Possible direct actions for the promotion of access to and sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources related to island biodiversity in accordance with national legislation where it exists

Regulations and systems to regulate access to genetic resources and ensure that benefits arising from their utilization are fairly and equitably shared

1.102 Investigate and document the occurrence and use of local medicinal plants, including the potential for bio prospecting and make the results available.

1.103 Improve the recording and cataloguing and uses of such uses making the information more readily available to the general public. ^{44/}

^{42/} “In collaboration” does not reflect communities’ true involvement.

^{43/} There is the need to add goal/target/activities for other forms of development (large scale) e.g. Infrastructure, offshore fishing , etc.

^{44/} The statement of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, on marine and coastal biodiversity reads: “Indigenous peoples have consistently called for a moratorium on bioprospecting until rights to our genetic resources and indigenous knowledge are recognized. Thus, we cannot support activities to share information that will prejudice our rights in this respect”. The two suggested activities above will therefore require discussion and possible editing.

1.104 Develop local capacities for [preserving] [protecting and developing], including the exercise of prior informed consent, the traditional knowledge of indigenous and local communities for the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the use of genetic resources taking into account the Bonn Guidelines on access and benefit-sharing, without prejudice to the international regime on Access and Benefit-Sharing that will be developed in accordance with decision VII/19 of the Conference of the Parties.^{45/}

Possible direct actions for the maintenance of genetic diversity in island ecosystems, in particular through the preservation and maintenance of traditional knowledge and practice

Gene banks^{46/} for wild and domesticated species

1.105 Develop, with full respect for the rights of indigenous and local communities, and with their full and effective participation, the infrastructure and technical and managerial base for a gene bank including for aquatic/marine species and livestock, also as security against disasters and extinction as well as for museum collections.^{47/}

1.106 Maintain at least 70 per cent of the genetic diversity of crop species and other major socio-economic valuable species in gene banks.

1.107 Adopt the population level in the establishment of gene banks to guarantee conservation of local entities.

Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary

1.108 Prepare and present a paper on the mechanisms for the development, and governance, of marine gene banks (marine herbaria and similar gene banks).^{48/}

Re-establishment of endangered species

1.109 Promote recovery plans of at least 20 per cent of threatened islands species until they reach an adequate level of conservation with special emphasis on isolated phylogenetic entities (i.e. paleo-endemics).

1.110 Prioritize conservation measures on endangered crop relative species.

1.111 Habitat management and reintroductions (active recovery effort) must be parallel or subsequent to habitat protection (passive recovery). On the other hand, within the active recovery effort, *in situ* action measures will have priority over *ex situ* measures.

1.112 Integrate *in situ* and *ex situ* strategies inside protected areas by establishing infrastructure for experiments, reproduction, short term conservation and education.

1.113 Maintain at least 60 per cent of threatened island species in accessible *ex situ* collections, preferably in the country of origin.

^{45/} There is a need to make a link to the capacity-building for access and benefit-sharing agreed at the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

^{46/} Specify whether it should be in the countries or under a regional regime.

^{47/} There is a need to clarify under whose control and what are the rights of the countries of origin and of indigenous and local communities.

Also, the Conservation International (CI) and other Pacific islands would not be able to establish such facilities. This needs to be clarified further.

^{48/} Need to consider providing for regional cooperation, which can be cost effective, including training. The gene bank activity would assist this. Small Island States may not be effective for donor support, whereas regional would be.

PROGRAMME ELEMENT 2: Means of implementation and enabling environment for conservation, sustainable use and fair and equitable benefit-sharing

Possible targets

- 2.(a) *[By 2008], mobilize new partnerships and resources to assist with the mainstreaming of biodiversity and the implementation of the programme of work on island biodiversity.*
- 2.(b) *[By 2008] Improve, enact and enforce legislation and mechanisms that provide for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the utilization of biological resources.*
- 2.(c) *[By 2008] establish a coherent public policy addressing various facets of problems pertaining to island biodiversity . 49/*
- 2.(d) *[By 2008] strengthen the capacity of natural resources management institutions, as well as NGOs , and indigenous and local communities, to support the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAP).*
- 2.(e) *[By 2008]] provide the appropriate incentives to support the conservation and sustainable use of island biodiversity, and to remove, or reform appropriately, many perverse incentives opposing such conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems. 50/*
- 2.(f) *Respect and support the utilization of indigenous and local communities' traditional management practices and new science and management tools for improved management of island resources. 51/*
- 2.(g) *Recognize the intrinsic and cultural links between island biodiversity and the well-being of local communities.*
- 2.(h) *Ensure participation of indigenous and local communities in decisions that affect them in relation to island biodiversity.*
- 2.(i) *[By 2008] promote an improved approach to land resource management which emphasizes the integration of physical, socio-economic and institutional aspects of land use, and stresses the need for active participation of all stakeholders in decision-making.*
- 2.(j) *Coordinate synergies and harmonization and assessment of the implementation of different ongoing programmes and cross-cutting activities and conventions related to the Convention on Biological Diversity.*
- 2.(k) *[By ...], Increase the public education, participation and awareness of island populations and of tourists visiting islands.*
- 2.(l) *[By ...] Promote/increase participatory conservation management of island biodiversity.*
- 2.(m) *[By 2008] establish appropriate mechanisms for the effective funding of biodiversity-related project, strategies and plans.*

Possible direct actions for the strengthening of national, regional and international partnerships and plans in support of island biodiversity

- 2.1 Identify regional partners and develop effective collaboration.

49/ Other critical areas should be included, such as regional and international trade, intellectual property rights.
50/ Most of the activities under target 4 could be included under target 2.
51/ Provide link with goal 1.5. under programme element 1.

This section needs development and refinement with possible links to Articles 8(j) and 10(c).

- 2.2 Strengthen existing regional networks with a view to developing regional coral task forces with the mandate to address at the political and technical levels a number of management priorities.
- 2.3 Build effective partnerships between all stakeholders essential to the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources.
- 2.4 Establish marine protected area partnerships to assist SIDS Governments and local NGOs and communities build representative network of marine and coastal protected areas (MCPA) that contribute to sustainable livelihoods and achieving the targets of 2010, for terrestrial, and 2012 for marine protected areas under the Convention on Biological Diversity. 52/
- 2.5 Implement national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) or their equivalent in islands through national coordinating mechanisms involving all relevant stakeholders.
- 2.6 Integrate NBSAPs into the development plans and national planning processes of at least 10 SIDS. 53/

Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary

- 2.7 Support and strengthen the capacity of governments and local communities to lead and develop effective partnerships for conservation, sustainable use and fair and equitable benefit-sharing.
- 2.8 Support and facilitate the efforts of the NGO consortium to implement their pledge at the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties in relation to protected areas and its application to the conservation of island biodiversity, in full consultation with indigenous and local communities and relevant authorities. 54/
- 2.9 Formally identify all existing related conservation programmes and strategies that relate to this programmes, analyse what they are doing in effect towards this programme and systematically sort out a way of supporting them in a coordinated fashion (e.g. Pacific Islands Conservation Strategy, Conservation International Initiative on Biodiversity Hotspots, the French Marine Initiative, World Heritage).

Possible direct actions for the enhancement of the legal, policy, institutional, and economic framework

Legislation and mechanisms for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits 55/

- 2.10 Formulate, with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, and relevant stakeholders, and strengthen a clear legal framework dealing with island biodiversity issues.
- 2.11 Complete the legal system by integrating some critical multilateral agreements important for biodiversity.
- 2.12 Implement meaningful sanctions to ensure compliance.
- 2.13 Strengthen environmental protection enforcement agencies.
- 2.14 Involve stakeholders in implementation of legislation and policies.

Establishment of a coherent public policy addressing various facets of problems pertaining to island biodiversity 56/

52/ Proposed deletion. This is already included in the programme of work on protected areas.

53/ Proposed deletion.

54/ Proposed deletion. This is already included in the programme of work on protected areas.

55/ Reference to the UNE/GEF/BPSP Thematic Studies, including the one on legislative Complementarity and Harmonization of Biodiversity-related Multilateral Agreements should be made.

2.15 Develop and implement policies that will enable the protection of endangered species including such measures as banning certain detrimental activities.

Capacity of natural resources management institutions, NGOs, and indigenous and local communities, to support the implementation of NBSAPs

2.16 Complete NBSAPs, through participatory processes.

2.17 Give priority to and support implementation of recommended activities identified in NBSAPs.

2.18 Integrate the recommendations made in NBSAPs into national development plans and programmes.

2.19 Involve stakeholders at all levels in the implementation of the NBSAPs.

2.20 Implement long-term education programmes to ensure the successful implementation of NBSAPs.

2.21 Support and develop the capacity of indigenous and local communities, NGOs and relevant institutions to implement the NBSAP, through appropriate activities, including training.

2.22 Strengthen scientific research capabilities.

2.23 Empower users in resources management/ promote inter community based management.

Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary

2.24 Facilitate exchange of experiences between SIDS in various regions to assist with timely implementation of NBSAPs.

Incentive measures ^{56/}

2.25 Establish economic incentives that encourage the conservation of endemic and endangered species by private businesses and indigenous and local communities.

2.26 Remove harmful subsidies that encourage unsustainable exploitation of island biodiversity or irreversible loss of critical habitat.

2.27 Achieve certification of commercial forestry and fisheries in at least 10 SIDS, according to standards and mechanisms developed in full consultation with indigenous and local communities and relevant authorities.

2.28 Develop and implement incentives mechanisms that will help participatory approaches in the conservation, management and sustainable use of biodiversity.

2.29 Implement disincentive measures that will enable mitigation of detrimental actions, and help towards participatory approaches in the conservation, management and sustainable use of biodiversity.

Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary

2.30 Document and disseminate best practices on incentive mechanisms towards promoting participatory conservation, management and sustainable use of biodiversity.

^{56/} Other critical areas should be included, such as regional and international trade, intellectual property rights.

^{57/} Most of the activities under target 4 could be included under target 2.

Possible direct actions for the respect, preservation, and maintenance of the knowledge, practices and innovations of indigenous and local communities in island regions

Respect and support to the utilization of indigenous and local communities' traditional management practices and new science and management tools for improved management of island resources ^{58/}

2.31 Promote sustainable traditional management practices, in accordance with the provisions of Article 8(j).

2.32 Undertake [capacity-building] activities to support indigenous and local communities to effectively manage their biological resources.

2.33 Complete, with full respect for the rights of indigenous and local communities, and with their full and effective participation, a survey of, and document, all traditional crops and fish species, uses and interactions. ^{59/}

2.34 Incorporate appropriate traditional conservation management systems into modern legal systems.

Intrinsic and cultural links between island biodiversity and the well being of local communities

2.35 Undertake scientific research and document traditional medicinal plants found only in islands (including analysis of traditional medicinal plants of ecological significance to islands) and neglected food plants that might be important for island community food security, in accordance with prior informed consent and respecting the rights of indigenous and local communities.

Participation of indigenous and local communities in decisions that affect them

2.36 Respect the rights of indigenous and local communities to natural resources and knowledge associated with the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and enhance access to information for the full participation and involvement of indigenous and local communities in decisions that affect them in relation to island biodiversity.

2.37 Promote the participation of indigenous and local communities in decision-making and implementation of the present programme of work, by taking into consideration indigenous and local communities' aspirations and livelihoods.

2.38 Increase involvement and participation of indigenous and local communities in the decision making process on issues pertaining to island biodiversity.

Possible direct actions for the promotion of the integration of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity into relevant sectoral and cross sectoral plans, programmes and policies

Integration of physical, socio-economic and institutional aspects of land use

2.39 Develop mechanisms for participatory integrated planning and management of land resources including inland water and coastal areas.

2.40 Improve the coordination and articulation among entities and the governance of the sector by establishing effective innovative mechanisms and agencies and increasing their capacities to make appropriate planning and interventions in the sector.

^{58/} Provide link with goal 1.5. under programme element 1.
This section needs development and refinement with possible links to Article 8(j) and 10(c).
^{59/} Proposed deletion.

Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary

2.41 Collect and disseminate [information] [mechanisms] for participatory integrated planning and management of land resources including inland water and coastal areas.

Coordination, synergy and assessment of the implementation of different ongoing programmes and cross-cutting activities and conventions related to the Convention on Biological Diversity

2.42 Assign an office with the responsibility to oversee and follow up participation in various multilateral environment agreements (MEAs).

Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary

2.43 Promote collaboration among the secretariats and national focal points of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971), the United Nations Forum on Forests, and other relevant organizations to develop adaptive strategies for island ecosystems and for the monitoring of changes due to the impact of global processes.

Possible direct actions for the empowering of indigenous and local communities and institutions to effectively support and participate in the conservation of island biodiversity in accordance with national laws and applicable international obligations 60/

Public education, participation and awareness of island populations and of tourists visiting islands

2.44 Establish and support at least three peer-learning networks to promote the rapid dissemination of new skills and tools.

2.45 Utilize SIDSnet, Global Islands Network (GIN) and the clearing-house mechanism under the Convention on Biological Diversity for the effective dissemination of information on island biodiversity.

2.46 Undertake national and regional awareness campaigns focused on endemic and/or endangered island species, including the importance of restoration activities and the values of biodiversity for island development.

2.47 Introduce biodiversity issues in the curricula of schools and universities, in the framework of the decade of education for sustainable development

2.48 Organize appropriate training on biodiversity at different levels (decision makers, children).

2.49 Develop environmental education and public awareness programmes.

2.50 Develop mechanisms/strategies to empower local communities in island biodiversity management (legal framework).

2.51 Develop local-community capacities in resources and biodiversity sustainable management.

Possible direct actions for the promotion and strengthening of sustainable financing 61/

Mechanisms for the effective funding of biodiversity-related projects, strategies and plans

2.52 Promote the diversification of income-generating activities especially in the agricultural sector in support of conservation and sustainable use of island biodiversity and poverty alleviation, including methods to share economic wealth.

60/ Other targets need to be developed to achieve goal 2.6. Goal 2.6. could be moved after goal 2.3 on indigenous and local communities to make the content of element 2 flow better.

61/ Most of the activities under goal 2.8 could be integrated in the current goal 2.2. on national framework.

- 2.53 Build support among donor Governments and parliaments (and their constituencies) for expanded financial assistance for island biodiversity and other aspects of conservation.
- 2.54 Estimate the costs and analyse current funding levels, shortfalls for island biodiversity, and options for filling shortfalls.
- 2.55 Analyse the socio-economic values of island biodiversity and its contribution to local, national and global economies and cultures, and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; and the development of effective communications materials using information and data from such analyses. Undertake cost-benefit analysis of biodiversity conservation at island/national level.
- 2.56 Plan and design, a range of conservation finance mechanisms, such as bilateral / multilateral grants and loans, conservation trust funds, including, where appropriate, national biodiversity trust funds, debt-for-nature swaps, user fees, payments for ecosystem services, and other instruments.
- 2.57 Promote micro-credit and small investments funds to mobilize resources for the development of small business that are compatible with the conservation of island biodiversity and reduces poverty.
- 2.58 [Assist community income-generating activities through national marketing and financial structures in at least 20 SIDS.]

Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary

- 2.59 Collect and disseminate information on best practices concerning financial sustainability/sustainable financing mechanisms that will also ensure the diversification of income-generating activities in support of conservation and sustainable use of island biodiversity and poverty alleviation.

PROGRAMME ELEMENT 3: Supporting actions for conservation, sustainable use and benefit-sharing ^{62/}

Possible targets

- 3.(a) *[By...] establish an effective baseline for the conservation of island biodiversity.*
- 3.(b) *[By 2008] Address the problem of lack of trained personnel in small islands.*
- 3.(c) *[By 2008] Develop the capacity to promote SIDS-SIDS cooperation for biodiversity resources, shared ecosystem management and exchange of experience.*
- 3.(d) *[By ...], establish co-operative agreements with other nations, particularly in the region, for capacity-building and information exchange in the area of biodiversity. ^{63/}*
- 3.(e) *By 2010, national and regional system are established in [...] SIDS to enable effective monitoring of progress in implementing the programme of work or in meeting [...] global targets.*
- 3.(f) *[By ...] improve the infrastructure and information management for monitoring of island biodiversity and develop appropriate databases. ^{64/}*
- 3.(g) *[By ...] enlarge information basis on issues pertaining to vulnerabilities of islands, their resilience, and island biodiversity and natural disasters, climate change and sea-level rise.*

^{62/} This is a critical part of the programme of work, which should be linked to ongoing work on baseline information and indicators, in the context of achieving the 2010 biodiversity target.

^{63/} Activities under this target could be included in target 1 of goal 2.2.

^{64/} Reference should be made to the Global taxonomy Initiative.

Possible direct actions for the strengthening of the information base and improvement of the understanding of island ecosystems, their goods and services and the value they can provide

Baseline for the conservation of island biodiversity

- 3.1 Identify current pressures on biodiversity.
- 3.2 Identify current threats and quantify its importance on different island biota.
- 3.3 Compile a list of both undertaken and planned (passive and active) conservation measures on habitats and species (*in situ* and *ex situ*)
- 3.4 Develop an inventory on ecosystems and species most at risk in order to determine priorities for conservation and protection, utilizing appropriate technologies (such as satellite imagery, geographical information systems (GIS) and others).
- 3.5 List relict species that survive on islands as paleo-endemics.
- 3.6 Develop an inventory of presence of invasive alien species on islands based on survey. Link this with the inventory of species and ecosystems to identify the pressures, risks and most cost-effective opportunities for prevention and restoration.
- 3.7 Develop trade-related measures based on “pest risk assessments” (e.g. as ordained under sanitary and phytosanitary measures, etc) and survey and inventory of presence and absence of invasive alien species.
- 3.8 Undertake an assessment of resources, identification of important gaps in the knowledge base and the assessment of further needs and associated costs.
- 3.9 Undertake a continuous inventory of coral reef areas and other important island ecosystems. 65/
- 3.10 Encourage the IUCN to adapt the Red List criteria to the small-island scope.
- 3.11 Develop a Red Book for Islands using the IUCN categories and criteria on [terrestrial and marine species][island ecosystems].
- 3.12 Increase research on conservation biology of the species, emphasizing the use of diagnostic methods by population viability analyses (PVAs) in order to improve the application of the IUCN Red data guidelines, to identify the minimum viable population (MVP) and to clarify the need to undertake active recovery efforts.
- 3.13 Undertake censuses and mapping of all threatened species and a continuous monitoring based on demographic techniques of at least all critically endangered and endangered species.
- 3.14 Identify, prioritize and map important areas for threatened species.
- 3.15 Develop a repository collection of voucher specimen and build museums repository capacities to house survey and other reference specimen for future reference.
- 3.16 Develop a mechanism that enables and facilitates the regionalization of existing repository collections to serve those islands that need the resource but have no infrastructure.
- 3.17 Identify and map ecosystems and habitats that are threatened and/or culturally significant in at least [25] SIDS as part of an overall assessment of island biodiversity. 66/

65/ Proposed deletion.

66/ Proposed deletion.

3.18 Complete environment valuations for unique or biologically significant resources in at least [10] SIDS. 67/

3.19 Establish national information storage and clearing-house mechanisms for island biodiversity in at least [15] SIDS. 68/

3.20 Compile a Global Island Atlas that identifies islands, their characteristics, species, habitats and major threats.

Suggested supporting activities of the Executive Secretary:

3.21 Develop effective tools and capacity for the clearing-house mechanism to support the conservation of island biodiversity.

3.22 Document and disseminate planning and management tools/guidelines and other appropriate mechanisms to prepare integrated management plans for threatened ecosystems, habitats and species, with special emphasis on marine and coastal areas and to promote environmentally sound practices and forms of land use, watershed management and development.

Possible direct actions for the improvement of research, technical cooperation and other forms of capacity building related to island biodiversity 69/

Lack of trained personnel in small islands

3.23 Develop training programmes to enhance national science and technology capability.

3.24 Modify, in order to place appropriate emphasis on environmental issues, the curricula of primary, secondary and tertiary level educational institutions.

3.25 Develop and implement mechanisms, using appropriate media, to improve information exchange and communication capacity, especially within the formal education and decision-making communities.

3.26 Involve scientist in the decisions-making process for conservation management activities.

3.27 Establish multidisciplinary teams with specialists on conservation biology, management and land planning to promote comprehensive management models (i.e. in protected areas) to deal with diagnostic, conservation and understanding of natural resources.

3.28 Valorize local culture (aural and oral) to disseminate environmental issues and information.

3.29 Develop training and other non-formal training programmes. 70/

3.30 Develop media programmes and activities in schools.

3.31 Develop the capacity and enhance opportunities for community-based research and monitoring to conserve island biodiversity and provide grater benefits to island communities.

3.32 Make biodiversity-resource information accessible to all relevant organizations and agencies.

Capacity to promote SIDS-SIDS cooperation

3.33 Effectively document and promote information-sharing on best practices, lessons learned and experiences.

67/ Proposed deletion.

68/ Proposed deletion.

69/ Reference to small islands in this goal should be more specific.

70/ Proposed deletion.

3.34 Use regional and national experts for regional and national training in the context of SIDS-SIDS cooperation, including civil society and the private sector, noting that within the CARICOM region a charter has been established for the participation of all major groups.

3.35 Compile and disseminate a list of relevant experts with working experience in SIDS environment.

3.36 Develop SIDS-SIDS and South-South cooperation at the bilateral, sub-regional and regional levels in strategic areas such as information and communication technologies, capacity-building, disaster management, food, agriculture, water, energy, health and education.

Possible direct actions for the encouragement of the development, application and transfer of appropriate technologies, taking into account decision VII/29

Cooperative agreements for capacity-building and information exchange ^{71/}

3.37 Identify regional partners and develop effective regional collaboration.

3.38 Strengthen existing regional networks with a view to develop regional key ecosystems (coral mangroves) task forces with mandate to address at the political and technical levels a number of management priorities.

3.39 Develop and strengthen capacity for technology assessment to prevent adverse impacts on island biodiversity and human health.

Possible direct actions for the monitoring of progress in implementation

National and regional system for the effective monitoring of progress in implementing the programme of work

3.40 Elaborate national diagnostic, identifying main biodiversity problems, lack of knowledge and priorities. Assess the implementation process of NBSAPs.

3.41 Establish monitoring systems, at least in critical areas.

3.42 Review progress against the baseline established in 2008 and priorities set for the conservation of island biodiversity.

3.43 Develop and adopt methods, standards, criteria and indicators for evaluating progress.

3.44 Establish and update national and regional databases on island biodiversity.

3.45 Encourage the establishment and use of new technologies including remote-sensing tools for monitoring island biodiversity.

3.46 Develop and consolidate working partnerships with appropriate organizations and institutions.

3.47 Introduce and maintain appropriate monitoring arrangements to detect changes in the status and/or trends of island biodiversity.

^{71/} Activities under this target could be included in target 1 of goal 2.2.

Infrastructure and information management for monitoring of island biodiversity. ^{72/}

- 3.48 Promote studies on the species life story with special emphasis on conservation biology tools in order to improve diagnostics and management.
- 3.49 [By ...] ensure that taxonomic training is provided and guides prepared to enable researchers to identify poorly known biological groups, coral species and other [associated][island] species.
- 3.50 Involve users (private sector, local communities) in monitoring.

Information basis on vulnerabilities of islands, their resilience, natural disasters, climate change and sea level rise.

- 3.51 [By ...] monitor and exchange information on the impacts of global climate change on island biodiversity
- 3.52 [By ...] undertake studies and documentation of exclusive economic zones and areas beyond national jurisdictions, *inter alia*, provisions of baseline data and information on bonefish species, breeding, migration patterns of marine species, spawning sites.
- 3.53 Continue work on vulnerability index and other indicators that reflect the status of small islands and integrate ecological fragility and economic vulnerability

^{72/} Reference should be made to the Global Taxonomy Initiative.

Annex II

CHAPTER VII OF THE PLAN OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORLD SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES

58. Small island developing States are a special case both for environment and development. Although they continue to take the lead in the path towards sustainable development in their countries, they are increasingly constrained by the interplay of adverse factors clearly underlined in Agenda 21, the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and the decisions adopted at the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly. This would include actions at all levels to:

(a) Accelerate national and regional implementation of the Programme of Action, with adequate financial resources, including through Global Environment Facility focal areas, transfer of environmentally sound technologies and assistance for capacity-building from the international community;

(b) Implement further sustainable fisheries management and improve financial returns from fisheries by supporting and strengthening relevant regional fisheries management organizations, as appropriate, such as the recently established Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism and such agreements as the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean;

(c) Assist small island developing States, including through the elaboration of specific initiatives, in delimiting and managing in a sustainable manner their coastal areas and exclusive economic zones and the continental shelf, including, where appropriate, the continental shelf areas beyond 200 miles from coastal baselines, as well as relevant regional management initiatives within the context of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the regional seas programmes of the United Nations Environment Programme;

(d) Provide support, including for capacity-building, for the development and further implementation of:

(i) Small island developing States-specific components within programmes of work on marine and coastal biological diversity;

(ii) Freshwater programmes for small island developing States, including through the Global Environment Facility focal areas;

(e) Effectively reduce, prevent and control waste and pollution and their health-related impacts by undertaking initiatives by 2004 aimed at implementing the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities in small island developing States;

(f) Work to ensure that, in the ongoing negotiations and elaboration of the World Trade Organization work programme on trade in small economies, due account is taken of small island developing States, which have severe structural handicaps in integrating into the global economy, within the context of the Doha development agenda;

(g) Develop community-based initiatives on sustainable tourism by 2004 and build the capacities necessary to diversify tourism products, while protecting culture and traditions and effectively conserving and managing natural resources;

(h) Extend assistance to small island developing States in support of local communities and appropriate national and regional organizations of small island developing States for comprehensive hazard and risk management, disaster prevention, mitigation and preparedness, and help relieve the consequences of disasters, extreme weather events and other emergencies;

(i) Support the finalization and subsequent early operationalization, on agreed terms, of economic, social and environmental vulnerability indices and related indicators as tools for the achievement of the sustainable development of the small island developing States;

(j) Assist small island developing States in mobilizing adequate resources and partnerships for their adaptation needs relating to the adverse effects of climate change, sea level rise and climate variability, consistent with commitments under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, where applicable;

(k) Support efforts by small island developing States to build capacities and institutional arrangements to implement intellectual property regimes.

59. Support the availability of adequate, affordable and environmentally sound energy services for the sustainable development of small island developing States by, *inter alia*:

(a) Strengthening ongoing and supporting new efforts on energy supply and services, by 2004, including through the United Nations system and partnership initiatives;

(b) Developing and promoting efficient use of sources of energy, including indigenous sources and renewable energy, and building the capacities of small island developing States for training, technical know-how and strengthening national institutions in the area of energy management.

Annex III

**RECOMMENDATIONS PERTAINING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
PROGRAMME OF WORK PROPOSED BY PARTICIPANTS IN THE
ELECTRONIC FORUM**

The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Island Biodiversity *recommends* that the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice of the Convention invites the Conference of the Parties to:

1. *Request* the Global Environment Facility Implementing Agencies to make biodiversity issues in small island developing states part of their strategic priorities;
2. *Request* the Global Environment Facility to apply their rules of access and simplify their disbursement procedures so as to take into account the special circumstances of small island developing States in implementing the programme of work on island biodiversity;
3. *Request* the Global Environment Facility to provide fast-disbursing resources as needed to support country-driven early action in SIDS to implement the programme of work of the Convention on Biological Diversity on protected areas for meeting the 2010 target;
4. *Request* the international community to actively address, during the fourth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility, the financial requirements for the implementation of a programme of work on island biodiversity;
5. *Request* regional development banks and other financial institutions to assist/increase their assistance to small island developing States for the implementation of the programme of work;
6. *Request* Parties to achieve in island ecosystems targets and sub-targets developed in all programmes of work of the Convention, to use the agreed indicators to assess progress and report in the context of the national reports of the Convention on Biological Diversity. To achieve these targets the international community is invited to assist small island developing States to take into account the recommendations contained in the draft Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action developed during the Preparatory Meeting for the International Meeting to Review Implementation of the Programme of Action on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, New York, 14 to 16 April 2004, to be adopted at the International Meeting for the 10-year Review of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States to be held in Mauritius in 2005.
