

BELGIUM-SPEAKING NOTES AND POSITIONS, SBSTTA 17

FACILITATING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020 AND THE AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS THROUGH SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL MEANS>

Strategic goal: C To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity

A. Speaking Notes

Dear Mr Chairman, dear colleagues, ladies and gentlemen,

Belgium welcomes the conclusions on Adequacy of guidance and tools in support of the implementation at national level for Goal C. Under Target 11 Belgium would welcome further studies on the development of guidance and tools mentioned in the conclusions, with special attention to the management of inland water ecosystems and to the identification, designation and management of protected areas systems under climate change. Regarding Target 13 Belgium appreciates the work of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, which has done considerable work on the development of guidance and tools for both in-situ and cryo-preservation, and would like SBSTTA17 to recommend COP12) to ask the Commission to continue working on the development of tools for the identification of wild relatives as well as species of socioeconomic and cultural importance. Further in this respect, Belgium supports to continue developping approaches to decrease market or commercial pressures to simplify crop and live-stock systems, in order to conserve the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives

To improve the conservation status of known threatened species, Belgium encourages identifying and reducing the direct and indirect pressures on the affected species, to prepare, implement and disseminate recovery plans, and to better address extinction pressures associated with illegal harvest and trade.

Belgium will hand in text in writing to reflect these points,
Thank you Mr Chair.

Proposed elements for conclusion and/or draft decision

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice may wish to recommend that the Conference of the Parties adopts a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the parties:

Appreciates the work that the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, has done on the development of guidance and tools for both in-situ and cryo-preservation, and

Requests the Commission to continue working on the development of tools for the identification of wild relatives as well as species of socioeconomic and cultural importance

Calls upon Parties and invites other Governments, intergovernmental organizations and other relevant organizations

to continue the development of, and share, tools and methods for:

- effectively engaging the production sector and consumers in the light of minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species
- identifying and reducing the direct and indirect pressures on the conservation status of known threatened species, to prepare, implement and disseminate recovery plans, and to better address extinction pressures associated with illegal harvest and trade