

Intervention from the Colombian Delegation to the SBSTTA_17_3**Tuesday 15 October 2013 - afternoon**

Thank you Madame Chair. With your indulgence, Colombia would like to make a few general, high-level remarks concerning Strategic Goal B, focused on aspects related to enabling the science-policy interface:

- 1) Although there is a significant amount of guiding and supporting documents on using science to monitor progress towards the Aichi targets, and help their implementation, the uptake and use of these materials by parties remains low and scattered. Colombia therefore would like to draw the attention to the need for taking concrete and urgent actions to involve more actively the national science agencies and ministries as well as the academia in the scientific and technical activities required to achieve the targets related to Strategic Goal B. Investments from science ministries and agencies on CBD-related biodiversity research, monitoring and reporting are essential. Better and more effective coordination between science and environment ministries are necessary to ensure that scientific evidence is appropriately used to guide decisions concerning the implementation of the CBD Strategic Plan.
- 2) In this context, Colombia would like the SBSTTA to promote more actively the principles, frameworks and methodologies of open and collaborative science, making sure that scientific data, tools and capacity are widely and globally available for supporting policy and decision making. Global initiatives such as GeoBON and GBIF, as well as global frameworks such as the one proposed by the Global Biodiversity Informatics Outlook, provide guidance and practical solutions for parties to use open and collaborative science as well as global research infrastructures in support to the implementation of the CBD Strategic Plan.
- 3) Similarly, Colombia considers that more efforts and research are required to ensure that science results and evidence are appropriately and effectively communicated to society. Despite the progress on observation systems and indicator frameworks to monitor progress towards the Aichi Targets, the way these results are communicated are still largely insufficient to impact decisions driving societal changes, particularly across development and economic sectors.
- 4) Finally, Colombia recommends working closely with science agencies, ministries, councils and associations to promote research on innovative

pathways for biodiversity based development and sustainable use shared
agendas.