

# CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

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SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND  
TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

Eighteenth meeting

Montreal, 23-28 June 2014

Agenda item 5.2

## REVIEW OF WORK ON INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES AND CONSIDERATIONS FOR FUTURE WORK

### *Draft recommendation submitted by the Chair*

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, recommends that the Conference of the Parties, at its twelfth meeting, adopt a decision along the following lines:

#### *The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Reaffirms* that invasive alien species pose a serious hazard to biodiversity, human health and sustainable development;
2. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Global Invasive Alien Species Information Partnership and *recognizes with appreciation* the contributions of its members towards free and open access to standardized invasive alien species and pathway information globally;
3. *Invites* the Invasive Species Specialist Group of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and other technical partners to continue and complete the work on pathway analysis, and to continue to develop a system for classifying alien species based on the nature and magnitude of their impacts;
4. *Notes* the strong interlinkages between invasive alien species and infectious diseases, which may directly serve as vectors impacting human and wildlife health;
5. *Welcomes* the approval by the second Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, as part of its Work Programme 2014-2018, of the initiation of scoping for a thematic assessment of invasive alien species, for consideration by the Platform's Plenary at its fourth session;<sup>1</sup>
6. *Calls upon* Parties and *invites* other Governments, when developing or updating and implementing their national or regional invasive alien species strategies, to consider in conjunction with the items listed in decision VI/23\*:
  - (a) Making effective use of communication strategies, tools and approaches to raise awareness of the risks associated with the introduction of potentially invasive alien species, including

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<sup>1</sup> See IPBES/2/17, Decision IPBES-2/5: Work programme for the period 2014-2018.

\* One representative entered a formal objection during the process leading to the adoption of this decision and underlined that he did not believe that the Conference of the Parties could legitimately adopt a motion or a text with a formal objection in place. A few representatives expressed reservations regarding the procedure leading to the adoption of this decision (see UNEP/CBD/COP/6/20, paras. 294-324).

through targeted messaging towards different sectors and audiences and facilitating public participation in scientific research and early warning systems;

(b) In line with decision IX/4 A, making use of existing guidance on risk analysis relevant to invasive alien species to enhance prevention, including guidance developed by the International Plant Protection Convention, the World Organisation for Animal Health, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

(c) Providing information to the Global Invasive Alien Species Information Partnership on the invasive species recorded in their territory, based on the tools developed by the partnership, such as the Global Register of Introduced and Invasive Species;

(d) Making use of the categorization of pathways of introduction of invasive species, considerations for their prioritization and overview of available tools for their management as contained in the note by the Executive Secretary on pathways of introduction of invasive species, their prioritization and management;<sup>2</sup>

(e) Identifying and prioritizing pathways of introduction of invasive alien species, taking into account, inter alia, information on the taxa, the frequency of introduction, and the magnitude of impacts, as well as scenarios for future climate change;

(f) The risk associated with the introduction of alien species through activities related to development aid, in line with paragraphs 43 and 44 of decision VIII/27, and related to ecosystem restoration;

(g) Cooperating by sharing information and best practices to address the introduction of invasive alien species via international web-based markets (e-commerce);

(h) Sharing information on control, management and/or eradication of invasive alien species, taking into account lessons learned (from both positive and negative experiences) and cost-benefit analyses, drawing, inter alia, upon information available through the Global Invasive Alien Species Information Partnership and other sources;

(i) Taking appropriate actions by making use of the full range of measures for control and/or eradication, including biocontrol, with appropriate risk analysis, and of decision-support tools and guidance;

(j) Prioritizing actions to address invasive species in particularly vulnerable ecosystems;

(k) Continuing efforts on the management of invasive alien species, with special emphasis and giving priority and importance to protected areas and key biodiversity areas, contributing to the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11;

(l) Collaborating with neighbouring countries on prevention, monitoring, early detection and rapid response activities, including through regional plant protection organizations;

(m) Involving experts from relevant agencies and institutions, including academia, indigenous and local communities and private sector entities, with a view to promoting a comprehensive approach towards invasive alien species;

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<sup>2</sup> UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/18/9/Add.1.

(n) Reporting on the progress towards Target 10 of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation aimed at putting in place effective management plans to prevent new biological invasions and to manage important areas for plant diversity that are invaded.

7. *Calls upon* donor countries and other donor agencies to further support Parties in the management of invasive alien species, to evaluate the existing capacity to strengthen border control measures at the national and regional level;

8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To facilitate, through technical and scientific cooperation, the development and implementation of regional projects to manage pathways and priority species at the regional level.

(b) To facilitate, in line with paragraph 19 of decision XI/28, capacity-building on species identification, including on rapid approaches, in support of the Capacity-building Strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative;

(c) To collaborate with relevant organizations to develop decision-support tools for:

(i) Evaluating the social, economic and ecological consequences of invasive alien species;

(ii) Cost-benefit analyses for eradication, management and control measures;

(iii) Examining the impacts of climate change and land-use change on biological invasions;

(d) To develop or facilitate the development of an appropriate warning symbol or label that could be voluntarily used to warn of a potential hazard or risks to biodiversity when trading potentially invasive alien species via the Internet prior to the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, in collaboration with relevant partners;

(e) To assess progress towards the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Target 9 and to report to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at a meeting to be held prior to the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

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