



CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Distr.
GENERAL

UNEP/CBD/MSP/1/Add.1*
19 October 2001

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

OPEN-ENDED INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING ON THE STRATEGIC PLAN, NATIONAL REPORTS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Montreal, 19-21 November 2001

Item 2.2 of the provisional agenda**

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Note by the Executive Secretary

INTRODUCTION

Venue

1. In its decision V/20, on the operations of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Conference of the Parties decided to hold an open-ended inter-sessional meeting, to assist with preparations for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The meeting will consider, and to the extent possible develop draft elements of decisions on, the following topics:

- (a) Preparation of the Strategic Plan for the Convention;
- (b) The second national reports; and
- (c) Means to support implementation of the Convention, in particular, implementation of priority actions in national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

2. The Conference of the Parties further decided that the meeting should be of three days' duration, and should be held in conjunction with an existing meeting.

3. In accordance with rules 4 and 5 of the rules of procedure for meetings of the Conference of the Parties, the President of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, in consultation with the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties and the Executive Secretary, decided that the inter-sessional meeting referred to in decision V/20 should be convened in conjunction with the seventh meeting of the

* This Web version of the annotations to the provisional agenda of the Open-Ended Inter-Sessional Meeting on the Strategic Plan, National Reports and Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity incorporates the corrections introduced to the original print version dated 17 September 2001 by corrigendum UNEP/CBD/MSP/1/Add.1/Corr.1 dated 16 October 2001.

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Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) and should accordingly be held from 19 to 21 November, 2001.

4. The meeting will take place at the headquarters of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in Montreal. Registration of participants will commence at the venue of the meeting at 3 p.m. on Sunday, 18 November 2001.

Logistical arrangements

5. The Secretariat has distributed an information note containing details of registration and logistical arrangements for the meeting, including information on travel, visa requirements, accommodation and other matters.

Participants

6. In accordance with Article 36, paragraph 3, of the Convention, for each Contracting Party that ratifies, accepts or approves the Convention or accedes thereto after the deposit of the thirtieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Convention shall enter into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit by such Contracting Party of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. Consequently, the Parties to the Convention at the opening of the meeting on 19 November 2001 will be those States and regional economic integration organizations that have deposited their instruments by 21 August 2001.

Observers

7. In accordance with Rule 6 of the rules of procedure for meetings of the Conference of the Parties, the Secretariat will notify the United Nations, its specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency as well as any State not Party to the Convention of this meeting so that they may be represented as observers.

8. In accordance with rule 7 of the rules of procedure, the Secretariat will also notify any body or agency, whether governmental or non-governmental, qualified in fields relating to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, which has informed the Secretariat of its wish to be represented at this meeting, so that any such bodies may be represented as observers. Such bodies or agencies who wish to be represented at the meeting, and who have not already informed the Secretariat thereof, are requested to do so.

Documentation

9. A list of documents is provided in annex I below. In addition to normal distribution, documents will be made available on the Secretariat's world-wide web site at the following Internet address: <<http://www.biodiv.org>>.

10. The Bureau of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties has recommended that the Executive Secretary take the necessary measures to ensure that the documentation to be prepared and distributed by the Secretariat at the expense of the Trust Fund for the Convention be confined to essential relevant documentation. Parties and observers who wish to make documentation available to the meeting are requested to bring sufficient copies to the meeting for distribution to participants or to make their own arrangements for the reproduction of such documents in Montreal.

Exhibitions and other events

11. Delegations and organizations interested in arranging events at the meeting, such as workshops, seminars, presentations, or receptions, are asked to contact the Secretariat before 19 October 2001, in order to make the necessary arrangements.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

12. The President of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, Mr. Katana Ngala (Kenya), will open the meeting.

13. The Executive Secretary of the Convention will make a statement highlighting the main issues before the meeting.

ITEM 2: ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

2.1 Election of officers

14. The Bureau of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties recommended that the President of the Conference, with support from the Bureau of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, preside over the meeting.

2.2 Adoption of the agenda

15. The meeting may wish to adopt its agenda, on the basis of the provisional agenda as contained in document UNEP/CBD/MSP/1.

16. The provisional agenda has been prepared by the Executive Secretary in the light of the provisions of rule 8 of the rules of procedure for meetings of the Conference of the Parties, which apply *mutatis mutandis* to the current meeting. In preparing the provisional agenda, the Executive Secretary has benefited from the guidance of the Bureau of the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

2.3 Organization of work

17. In light of the number and complexity of the matters to be addressed at the meeting, the Conference of the Parties may wish to establish two working groups. A timetable and division of responsibilities between two working groups is proposed in annex II below.

18. It is proposed that Working Group I consider item 3 (Strategic Plan for the Convention) and Working Group II consider item 4 (National reports), item 5 (Implementation of the Convention, in particular, implementation of priority actions in national biodiversity strategies and action plans) and item 6 (Operations of the Convention).

19. Interpretation will be available for two working groups for morning and afternoon sessions. Interpretation will not, however, be available for evening sessions, should these be necessary.

20. To assist the MSP in the preparation of its recommendations for transmission to the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, annex III below contains a compilation of the draft recommendations contained in the documents UNEP/CBD/MSP/2 to 5. The elements of these recommendations have been clustered into four proposed draft decisions with a view to their adoption by the Conference of the Parties.

ITEM 3: STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE CONVENTION

21. By decision V/20 the Conference of the Parties initiated an inter-sessional process to develop a Strategic Plan for the Convention with a view to preparing a full draft Plan in time for consideration and adoption by the COP at its sixth meeting. This open-ended meeting on the Strategic Plan, national reports and the implementation of the convention (MSP) is one of the last and most important steps in the process for developing a full draft of the Strategic Plan.

22. The Executive Secretary has prepared a note on the Strategic Plan for the Convention on Biological Diversity (UNEP/CBD/MSP/2) to assist the meeting in this task. The note begins with a description of the process for developing the Strategic Plan in part II. Part III explains the rationale for determining the elements of the initial draft of the Plan. Section IV contains the initial draft of the plan prepared by the Executive Secretary. Part V concludes the note by inviting the MSP to consider the initial draft of the Executive Secretary with a view to developing a draft Strategic Plan for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting.

ITEM 4: NATIONAL REPORTS

23. By decision V/20, the Conference of the Parties requested the MSP to consider and, to the extent possible develop, draft elements of a decision on the second national reports.

24. In decision V/19 the Conference of the Parties endorsed a format for national reports, invited Parties to prepare thematic reports on items for in-depth consideration at its ordinary meetings, and established the schedule for future reports.

25. The draft elements of the Strategic Plan, contained in part IV of UNEP/CBD/MSP/2, address the need for a format for monitoring and reporting on implementation of the Strategic Plan and for periodic assessment and review. The draft Plan recommends that these be linked to the cycle of national reporting.

26. The Executive Secretary has prepared a note on national reports (UNEP/CBD/MSP/3) on national reports to assist the meeting with its consideration of this item. The note recalls the changes to the reporting procedures introduced by decision V/19. It considers the experience of the new reporting format in light of reports so far received and the expanded options for analysis of information contained in national reports provided by the new format. The note provides a proposal for linking the reporting and review of implementation of the Strategic Plan to the existing schedule for national reporting for the period 2002 to 2010. It also provides an overview of recent developments concerning the harmonization of national reporting. It concludes by proposing elements of a draft recommendation for transmission by the MSP to the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

ITEM 5: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION, IN PARTICULAR, IMPLEMENTATION OF PRIORITY ACTIONS IN NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS

27. By decision V/20, the Conference of the Parties requested the MSP to consider and, to the extent possible develop, draft elements of a decision on means to support implementation of the Convention, in particular, implementation of priority actions in national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

28. The draft Strategic Plan contained in document UNEP/CBD/MSP/2 proposes that the adoption and implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans by all Parties, and the availability of adequate resources for their implementation, be included amongst its operational goals.

29. The Executive Secretary has prepared a note on implementation of the Convention, in particular, implementation of priority actions in national biodiversity strategies and action plans' (UNEP/CBD/MSP/4) to assist the meeting with its consideration of this item. The note recalls the importance of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and the consideration of Article 6 by the Conference of the Parties. It outlines existing mechanism for support for development of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and gives an overview of the Secretariat's experience in monitoring the status of national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

30. The note recommends that the MSP consider current levels of support for implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and means to identify priority actions, and provide advice on how to ensure that available support is targeted at these priorities in an effective and coordinated manner. It identifies the need for a coordinated long-term strategic initiative to support the development of national capacity to implement priority actions in national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and suggests that such a strategy should be closely linked to the operational goals, and the action plans to achieve the operational goals, of the Strategic Plan for the Convention. The final sections consider options for mechanisms for identifying priority actions, and ways to identify increased levels of support for implementation of these.

31. The note concludes by proposing elements of a draft recommendation for transmission by the MSP to the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

ITEM 6: OPERATIONS OF THE CONVENTION

32. Considering ways and means to ensure the efficient operations of the Convention has been a central issue for each meeting of the Conference of the Parties. Most recently the matter has been the subject of attention in decisions IV/16, recommendation 1 of the Inter-Sessional Meeting on the Operations of the Convention and decision V/20. By decision V/20, the Conference of the Parties adopted a number of measures with respect to the operations of the Convention dealing with; meetings of the Conference of the Parties, the development of a Strategic Plan for the Convention, the operations of SBSTTA, implementation and other miscellaneous matters. An important aspect of the developments adopted by the Conference of the Parties with respect to implementation was the convening of this meeting (MSP), with the overall purpose of assisting with the preparations for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The Conference of the Parties specifically requested the MSP to consider the preparation of the Strategic Plan, the second national reports and means to support implementation. An important element of these three topics and a central feature of the overall purpose of the meeting is the operations of the Convention. A manifestation of the importance of this topic is that item 24 of the provisional agenda for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties is "Strategic plan, national reporting and operations of the Convention". The report of this meeting is the principal document for the deliberations of the Conference of the Parties on this item of the agenda. Accordingly, item 6 of the provisional agenda for this meeting is "Operations of the Convention".

33. The Executive Secretary has prepared a note (UNEP/CBD/MSP/5) to assist the MSP in reviewing the operations of the Convention with a view to proposing the elements of a draft decision for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its next meeting. Document UNEP/CBD/MSP/5 reviews the operations of the Convention. Key aspects of this review are implementation of decisions, recommendations of SBSTTA, and the role of the intersessional process in enhancing implementation, with an emphasis on the need for further mechanisms to review implementation, operations of the clearing-house mechanism, operations of the financial mechanism and the role of regional processes. Based on this review, part III proposes a number of draft elements for the consideration of the MSP.

ITEM 7: OTHER MATTERS

34. The meeting may wish to consider other items raised and accepted in accordance with rule 12 of the rules of procedure for meetings of the Conference of the Parties and paragraph 7 of decision IV/16 of the Conference of the Parties.

ITEM 8: ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

35. The meeting will consider and adopt its report, which will be presented by the President of the Conference of the Parties to the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties for its consideration.

ITEM 7: CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

36. The meeting will be closed on Wednesday, 21 November 2001 at 18:00.

Annex I

PROVISIONAL LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE OPEN-ENDED INTER-SESSIONAL MEETING ON THE STRATEGIC PLAN, NATIONAL REPORTS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
UNEP/CBD/MSP/1	Provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/MSP/1/Add.1	Annotated provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/MSP/2	Strategic Plan for the Convention
UNEP/CBD/MSP/3	National reports
UNEP/CBD/MSP/4	Implementation of the Convention, in particular, implementation of priority actions in national biodiversity strategies and action plans
UNEP/CBD/MSP/5	Operations of the Convention
[No symbol]	Handbook of the Convention on Biological Diversity
[No symbol]	Global Biodiversity Outlook

Annex II

PROVISIONAL ORGANIZATION OF WORK

	PLENARY	WORKING GROUP I	WORKING GROUP II
Monday, 19 November 2001 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	1 Opening of the meeting 2 Organizational matters 3 Strategic Plan for the Convention		
3 p.m. – 6 p.m.		3 Strategic Plan for the Convention	4 National reports 5 Implementation of the Convention 6 Operations of the Convention
Tuesday, 20 November 2001 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.		3 Strategic Plan for the Convention (<i>continued</i>)	4 National reports (<i>continued</i>) 5 Implementation of the Convention (<i>continued</i>) 6 Operations of the Convention (<i>continued</i>)
3 p.m. – 6 p.m.		3 Strategic Plan for the Convention (<i>continued</i>)	4 National reports (<i>continued</i>) 5 Implementation of the Convention (<i>continued</i>) 6 Operations of the Convention (<i>continued</i>)
Wednesday, 21 November 2001 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	7 Other matters		
3 p.m. – 6 p.m.	8 Adoption of the report 9 Closure of the meeting		

*Annex III***DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS****I. REQUEST TO THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

The Open-ended Inter-Sessional Meeting on the Strategic Plan, National Reports and Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity

1. *Notes* the outline of the action plans contained in the note by the Executive Secretary on the Strategic Plan (UNEP/CBD/MSP/2);
2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare, in consultation with relevant actors, detailed action plans for as many of the operational goals of the Strategic Plan for the Convention as possible in time for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
3. *Invites* Parties, States, intergovernmental organizations and other organizations to review their activities in light of this draft Plan and provide input to the development of actions plans in time for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

II. DRAFT ELEMENTS OF DECISIONS FOR TRANSMISSION TO THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

The Open-ended Inter-Sessional Meeting on the Strategic Plan, National Reports and Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity

Recommends that the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting consider the following elements of draft decisions with a view to their adoption:

A. *Strategic Plan for the Convention*

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Welcomes* the conclusions of the Seychelles Workshop on the Strategic Plan,
2. *Takes note* of the review of the status of biodiversity, the institutional context and the effectiveness of the Convention contained in the annex to document the note by the Executive Secretary on the Strategic Plan for the Convention on Biological Diversity (UNEP/CBD/MSP/2) and decides that this review provides a sound basis for the Strategic Plan;
3. *Adopts* the mission statement, vision, operational goals and action plans contained in the Annex to this decision as the Strategic Plan for the Convention on Biological Diversity;
4. *Urges* Parties, States, intergovernmental organizations and other organizations to review their activities in light of this Plan.

Annex

ELEMENTS OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN

A. *Mission statement*

To ensure the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the use of genetic resources.

B. *Vision*

By 2010:

- Current trends in the loss of biodiversity are effectively reversed at the global and national level
- The incidence and impacts of unsustainable use are considerably reduced
- The benefits arising from the use of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge are shared equitably

C. *Operational goals*

1. Current trends in the loss of biodiversity are effectively reversed at the global and national level
 - 1.1 Species, ecosystems and genetic diversity that are at imminent risk of irreversible loss are subject to appropriate actions to prevent that loss
 - 1.2 Representative species populations and ecosystems are more effectively managed to maintain their integrity
 - 1.3 Significant and emerging threats to biodiversity are prevented or minimized.
2. The incidence and impacts of unsustainable use are considerably reduced:
 - 2.1 National biodiversity strategy and action plan (NBSAP) and biosafety frameworks identify the uses of biodiversity at the national level, in a regional context
 - 2.2 Economic instruments that support sustainable use are developed and readily available
 - 2.3 Awareness of the impacts of unsustainable patterns of consumption and production is raised
 - 2.4 Capacity to sustainably manage wildlife resources is developed
 - 2.5 Tools, appropriate technologies and management systems that facilitate sustainable production and use of biological resources are developed and promoted

3. The benefits arising from the use of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge are shared equitably

3.1 International and regional mechanisms and measures to facilitate access to genetic resources for environmentally sound uses by other Parties, and benefit-sharing, including financial, human, and technological resources, are developed and implemented

3.2 National mechanisms and measures (e.g. legislation and agreements) on access and benefit-sharing, including financial, human, and technological resources, are developed and implemented

3.3 The role of intellectual property in promoting conservation, sustainable use and equitable sharing of benefits of genetic resources is promoted

3.4 Traditional knowledge, innovations and practices are assessed, inventoried and recognized

3.5 Information exchange on sharing of benefits from the use of genetic resources is enhanced, considering the special needs of developing countries

3.6 The role of biodiversity in reducing poverty, through the promotion of food security, for example, is promoted.

4. Cross-cutting operational goals:

4.1 All countries have an NBSAP in place and under implementation

4.2 Adequate financial, human and technical resources are provided to implement this Strategic Plan, in particular capacity-building support for implementation of priority actions in NBSAPs

4.3 Consideration of biodiversity is integrated both nationally and internationally into relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies

4.4 Key actors effecting implementation of the Convention have increased awareness and are actively supporting and involved in implementation

4.5 The Convention is playing a leadership role in the international arena, and other international processes are actively supporting its implementation

4.6 Mechanisms are enhanced and implemented to develop increased understanding of biodiversity, in particular the Global Taxonomy Initiative, and to develop and transfer improved biodiversity management techniques, and decisions are made on the basis of the best available science

4.7 The Convention and Parties have better methods to evaluate the degree of implementation of the Convention, to enable Parties, the Conference of the Parties and other bodies to assess the effectiveness of actions and measures taken to achieve the objectives of Convention.

B. Implementation of the Convention and capacity-building

The Conference of the Parties

[Support for national biodiversity strategies and action plans]

1. *Urges* Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity:
 - (a) To develop and adopt national biodiversity strategies and action plans, where they have not yet done so;
 - (b) To identify priority actions in national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
 - (c) To give priority to the integration of the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies;
 - (d) To establish national mechanisms or consultative processes for monitoring, evaluating and periodically revising national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
2. *Calls upon* all donors and institutions able to support implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, in particular of priority actions, to target such priority actions in an effective and coordinated manner within the framework of the Strategic Plan of the Convention;
3. *Welcomes* the contribution to the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans provided by the Biodiversity Planning Support Programme established by the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Development Programme with core financial support from the Global Environment Facility, request the agencies and partners involved to consider how regional support for biodiversity planning and capacity-building can be enhanced, and request the United Nations Environment Programme to make the guidelines on best practice available to all Parties;
4. *Transmits* to the Council of the Global Environment Facility its view that a strategic approach to capacity-building for the global environment is urgently needed and that promoting cross-convention synergies in capacity-building activities in order to promote efficiency and quality is a priority;
5. *Encourages* Parties to avail themselves of the assistance available through the financial mechanism for preparation of a national capacity self-assessment within the thematic areas of biodiversity, climate change and land degradation;
6. *Commends* the assessments of implementation carried out by Parties in the Central and Eastern Europe/Newly Independent States and Central America regions to the attention of Parties in other regions;
7. *Encourages* private foundations and other donors that provide funding in support of sustainable development activities to support implementation of priority actions in national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
8. *Transmits* to the World Summit on Sustainable Development its view that implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, in particular of priority actions, will play a central role in the implementation of the commitments on sustainable development undertaken at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and urge the World Summit to renew the commitment to make available the financial resources and support for the capacity development required for the effective implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

[Mechanism to review implementation]

9. *Decides* to establish an Ad Hoc Working Group on Implementation to review and analyse reports submitted by Parties in order to draw conclusions and propose concrete recommendations on further steps in the implementation of the Convention. The Ad Hoc Working Group shall:

- (a) Identify best practices and successes in implementing the Convention;
- (b) Identify the main difficulties, obstacles and challenges in implementing the Convention;
- (c) Consider the level of participation of all actors, including financial and technical support from developed countries, in the implementation process;
- (d) Consider linkages and synergies with other conventions;
- (e) Consider strategies established within the framework of sustainable development plans and/or policies;

[Regional centres for capacity-building]

10. *Invites* the Executive Secretary to take the necessary steps for the preparation of feasibility studies in Africa, Asia, and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and Central and Eastern Europe for the development of a network of regional centres or partners for capacity-building;

11. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare a report, based on a review of feasibility studies, for distribution to all Parties and Signatories. Each feasibility study should include a consideration of:

- (a) The needs of the region;
- (b) The resources available in the region;
- (c) The resources required to address the needs;
- (d) The benefits to be gained through establishment of a pilot centre;
- (e) The views from candidate regions as to the types of technical assistance or training they consider to be of the highest priority; and
- (f) The urgency of the priorities;

12. *Recommends* that the following guidelines be used as a basis to determine the suitability of a potential pilot centre(s):

- (a) Presence or potential use of an existing suitable facility, e.g. technology centre, university;

- (b) Access to appropriately qualified individuals suitable for management training programmes and who can act as future instructors or trainers;
- (c) Availability of a personnel pool to implement a biological diversity management system;
- (d) Commitment to invest time and resources into the maintenance, continuation and advancement of the centre;
- (e) Programme must be fully recognized and promoted by senior government authorities; and
- (f) Centres should be located in a reasonably accessible area within a candidate region;

13. *Invites* those countries in a position to do so, individually or collectively, on a bilateral or multilateral basis, to consider supplying financial resources and technically qualified person(s) recruited from either government or the private sector to collaborate in the preparation of the feasibility study(ies) in the candidate regions;

14. *Decides*, based on the feasibility studies, to select sites for the regional centre(s) for capacity-building at its seventh meeting.

C. National reports and the Global Biodiversity Outlook

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Welcomes* the second national reports and the thematic reports submitted by Parties in accordance with decision V/19;
2. *Urges* Parties that have not submitted a second national report to do so without further delay;
3. *Identifies* the items for in-depth consideration at its eighth, ninth and tenth meetings in order that arrangements can be made for the submission of thematic reports on these items;
4. *Welcomes* the publication of the Global Biodiversity Outlook and decide that the Global Biodiversity Outlook should continue to be prepared as a periodic report on biological diversity and implementation of the Convention;
5. *Decides* that the second edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook should be prepared for publication in 2004, drawing upon information contained in the second national reports, the thematic reports on the items for in-depth consideration at its sixth and seventh meetings, and on the review of progress in implementation of the Strategic Plan to be undertaken in 2003;
6. *Welcomes* the work of the Environmental Management Group on the harmonization of environmental reporting;
7. *Decides* to include questions on targets established under the Strategic Plan in the format for reporting national reporting approved by decision V/19, noting that:
 - (a) In respect of the third national reports it will, at its seventh meeting, consider revisions to the format to take account of:

- (i) The actions required by Parties as a result of decisions adopted at its sixth and seventh meetings;
 - (ii) Information needed from Parties in the third national reports in order to review progress in the implementation of the Strategic Plan; and
 - (iii) Any other adjustments to the format that may be appropriate in light of the experience of reporting; and
- (b) In respect of the fourth national reports it will, at its ninth meeting consider revisions to the format to take account of:
- (i) The actions required by Parties as a result of decisions adopted at its eighth and ninth meetings;
 - (ii) Information needed from Parties in the fourth national reports in order to review progress in the implementation of the Strategic Plan; and
 - (iii) Any other adjustments to the format that may be appropriate in light of the experience of reporting;

8. *Decides* on the appropriate inter-sessional process for assessing and reviewing progress in implementation of the Strategic Plan in 2003 and 2007 on the basis, respectively, of the second and third national reports;

9. *Decides* that at its tenth meeting it will review implementation of the Strategic Plan, on the basis of the fourth national reports, with a view to considering and adopting a new Strategic Plan for the period beginning in 2011.

D. Operations of the Convention

The Conference of the Parties

[Review of the status of implementation of the decisions of the Conference of the Parties]

1. *Welcomes* the Handbook on the Convention on Biological Diversity;
2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare a review of the status of implementation of all decisions of the Conference of the Parties and, based on the Handbook, propose a consolidated body of decisions for the consideration of [an inter-sessional meeting];
3. *Requests* the President of the Conference of the Parties to establish a legal drafting group to assist the Executive Secretary in preparing the review of the status of implementation of decisions of the Conference of the Parties;
4. *Decides* to review the status of implementation of all its decisions at its next meeting with a view to adopting a consolidated body of decisions;

[Procedures for decision-making regarding administrative and financial matters]

5. *Authorizes* the Executive Secretary, with the approval of its Bureau, to be able to transfer surplus funds from the BY Trust Fund for approved activities listed in the BE and BZ Trust Funds in the event that voluntary support for these activities is not sufficient to cover their costs;

[Review of SBSTTA recommendations]

Recalling its decision to make an assessment at its sixth meeting of the recommendations made to it by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice with a view to providing guidance to the Subsidiary Body on ways to improve its inputs,

6. *Decides* to undertake this assessment at its seventh meeting;

7. *Requests* the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to provide the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties with an analysis of the quality of its recommendations.
