



Convention on Biological Diversity

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SOUTH-SOUTH-EXCHANGE MEETING ON THE CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF FOREST BIODIVERSITY

Montreal, 8-10 July 2009

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Annotations to the provisional agenda

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its ninth meeting, in May 2008, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity emphasized, in its decision IX/25, that South-South cooperation is important for development in the context of the Millennium Development Goals, the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and the 2005 World Summit Outcome as a complement to, and supported by, North-South cooperation.
2. Furthermore, in decision IX/5, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to carry out thematic and/or regional workshops to support Parties' efforts in implementing the programme of work on forest biodiversity, based on the findings of the in-depth review of the programme of work (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/13/3). Regional forest-related organizations were identified as key facilitators to support national implementation, and are therefore seen as key partners in thematic and/or regional workshops.
3. The German Development Cooperation regards South-South cooperation and South-South learning at the interface of Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) and the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) as a key priority. The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) through the German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) supports South-South cooperation through various programmes and projects, *inter alia*, in cooperation with the regional organizations ACTO, COMIFAC and ASEAN. GTZ also collaborates with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity on promoting poverty alleviation through the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, as outlined in a Memorandum of Understanding between BMZ and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity dated 14 May 2007. The GTZ Regional Programmes to the three regional organizations and the GTZ Programme on International Forest Policy of the BMZ are providing substantial and generous financial support to conduct the South-South Exchange Meeting on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Forest Biodiversity, and also provided funding for a preparatory meeting which took place in Bali, 22-23 January 2009.
4. The objective of the South-South-Exchange Meeting on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Forest Biodiversity, to be held in Montreal from 8 to 10 July 2009, is to enhance capacity within and foster exchange between the regional organizations for a more effective and efficient implementation of approaches and instruments of international forest-related agreements, thus supporting sustainable forest management and poverty alleviation at national and local levels. The meeting will facilitate exchange about the different organizational setups and political mandates, current needs and challenges, as well as

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emerging lessons of the concerned regional organizations. The meeting is not intended to prepare negotiations, but rather to exchange approaches, be implementation-oriented, and target experts from the three regions.

5. The specific objectives of the meeting are to:

(a) Provide an opportunity for the secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) to update participants about recent decisions and ongoing initiatives in the framework of each respective intergovernmental process;

(b) Promote learning and exchange among the regional organizations on priority topics and inter-sectoral policies. Three priority areas will be discussed: payment for ecosystem services (PES), access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization (ABS); and Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD);

(c) Develop common inputs, such as a presentation, for the 13th WFC. The results and findings of the meeting could e.g. be presented and further discussed between regional organizations during the World Forestry Congress in Buenos Aires, from 18 to 23 October 2009, the COP 15 UNFCCC in December 2009 in Copenhagen, and the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, in 2010 in Nagoya.

6. Registration of participants will commence at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, 8 July 2009, at the premises of the Secretariat, located at 413, St Jacques Street West, Suite 800, Montreal. The meeting will be held in the Joke Waller-Hunter Conference Room at the same location.

II. BACKGROUND

7. In February 2006, the Executive Secretary received a request from H-E. Mr. Henri Djombo, Minister of Forest Economy and Environment of the Republic of the Congo, acting as the President of the Central Africa Forests Commission (COMIFAC), aimed at facilitating the exchange of experience between COMIFAC, the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in the context of South-South cooperation. The request was welcomed by the Secretariat of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization.

8. Pursuant to these requests, the Executive Secretary, in partnership with the Chairman of the Group of 77 in New York, convened a brainstorming meeting in Montreal from 6 to 8 November 2006. The objectives of this brainstorming meeting were to:

(a) Discuss the elements of a plan of action for South-South cooperation that would enhance implementation of the three objectives of the Convention and the Millennium Development Goals, in particular goals 1 and 7;

(b) Offer a platform of informal discussion between COMIFAC, ACTO and ASEAN to discuss modalities for collaboration and exchange of experiences in the context of South-South cooperation;

(c) Make recommendations on the process from the development through to the adoption of a multi-year programme of work on South-South cooperation on biodiversity.

9. The brainstorming meeting was attended by experts from Brazil, Gabon, the Republic of the Congo, South Africa, and Timor-Leste; the Group of 77 and China, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), ACTO, COMIFAC, ASEAN, the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and, as an observer, the IUCN–World Conservation Union. Following deliberations, participants suggested a framework for preparatory process of the development of a plan of action for South-South cooperation on biodiversity, including objectives, possible programme areas of interest and collaboration, possible mechanisms for enhancing south-south cooperation, and possible means of implementation. The Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting noted the report on the brainstorming meeting (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/11).

10. A meeting was held on 22-23 January 2009 in Bali, Indonesia to foster forest-policy learning among three regional organizations: ASEAN, COMIFAC, and ACTO. The meeting's objectives were to share experiences on regional forest policy approaches and implementation, discuss a draft proposal for a South-South-Exchange Meeting on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Forest Biodiversity, and discuss possible contributions from the three regional organizations for the 13th World Forestry Congress (WFC). It was recommended at the meeting that a South-South Exchange Meeting on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Forest Biodiversity should be held at the seat of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, in Montreal, prior to and in preparation of the 13th World Forestry Congress.

11. The South-South-Exchange Meeting on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Forest Biodiversity is convened to address a demand generated at the meeting between ACTO, COMIFAC and ASEAN at their meeting in Bali, 22-23 January 2009. The role of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, in collaboration with the GTZ, is to provide logistic and technical support to the further discussions of the regional bodies, and to support the development of follow-up documentation.

ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

2.1. Election of officers

12. After a self-introduction of participants, the Group will be invited to elect a Chair based on proposals from the floor.

2.2. Adoption of the agenda

13. The provisional agenda prepared by the Executive Secretary will be before the Group for consideration and adoption.

2.3. Organization of work

14. Under this item, the Group will consider the proposed organization of work for the meeting as contained in annex II below. The language of the meeting will be English.

ITEM 3. TECHNICAL SESSIONS: REDD-PLUS, FOREST-RELATED PAYMENTS FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES (PES), ACCESS AND BENEFIT SHARING (ABS)

15. Ms. Rane Cortez from The Nature Conservancy (TNC) will present an update of REDD-plus and the capacity-building module, highlighting the main challenges and opportunities for forest biodiversity and indigenous and local communities. Her presentation will be followed with an update on the United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD Programme), the World Bank/Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), and the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) Thematic Programme on Reducing Deforestation and Forest Degradation and Enhancing Environmental Services in Tropical Forests (REDDES), given by participants representing these organizations.

16. Mr. Richard Huber from the Organization of American States (OAS) will present an overview of forest-related Payments for Ecosystem Service (PES) programmes.

17. Ms. Valerie Normand, Programme Officer for Access and Benefit-Sharing at the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, will provide an outline of Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS) negotiations which will be followed by a presentation from GTZ and COMIFAC representatives on the cases and findings from the African Workshop on ABS and forests.

18. Participants are expected to take note of the information provided in the technical sessions, as the basis for discussions on opportunities and challenges for South-South cooperation (see Item 7.).

ITEM 4. FOREST-RELATED PROCESSES AND UPDATES ON RELEVANT PROGRAMMES OF WORK

19. Representatives from the secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests will highlight recent developments in the framework of each respective intergovernmental process. A discussion on current regional cooperation approaches and possible synergies for the planning and implementation of activities in the regions will follow.

20. Representatives of the various themes and programmes of work of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity will be invited to provide short updates about activities of the Convention on Biological Diversity on the subject of climate change, protected areas, International Year of Biodiversity, sustainable tourism, and invasive alien species.

21. Participants are expected to take note of the information provided under this item, as the basis for discussions on opportunities and challenges for South-South cooperation (see item 7).

ITEM 5. IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL COMMITMENTS IN THE REGIONS: TOOLS, CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

22. Representatives of the regional organizations will be invited to present their activities, the existing institutional arrangements, and the opportunities and obstacles in implementation of international and regional commitments. The objective of these presentations (which should be kept to a maximum of 30 minutes each) is to:

(a) Familiarize other participants with the mission, objectives, and internal structure of the respective regional organization;

(b) Reflect on the support which regional organizations provide to the national level in terms of implementation of international forest-related commitments such as under the Convention on Biological Diversity or the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF);

(c) Identify capacity-building needs and possible opportunities for South-South cooperation.

23. Participants are expected to take note of the information provided under this item, as the basis for further discussions on opportunities and challenges for South-South cooperation (see item 7).

24. Participants will be invited to discuss the regional opportunities and challenges for REDD-plus, PES, ABS, and poverty alleviation, and related opportunities and challenges for South-South cooperation.

ITEM 6. FOREST BIODIVERSITY FOR POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PROCESSES

25. Representatives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the GTZ will highlight lessons learned from North-South cooperation in mainstreaming forest biodiversity.

26. Participants are expected to take note of the information provided under this item, as the basis for further discussions on opportunities and challenges for South-South cooperation (see item 7).

ITEM 7. NEXT STEPS FOR SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

27. Under this item, participants will be invited to discuss next steps, which may include:

(a) Activities of future cooperation between the three regional organizations, including a possible follow-up meeting in 2010;

(b) Drafting of inputs to the World Forestry Congress to be held in Buenos Aires, from 18 to 23 October 2009, and the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in 2010, in Nagoya.

ITEM 8. OTHER MATTERS

28. Under this item, participants may wish to raise other matters related to the subject-matter of the meeting, and to agree on any follow-up actions.

ITEM 9. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT AND CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

29. Participants will be encouraged to provide feedback and evaluate the meeting.

30. Participants will be invited to consider and adopt the report of the meeting, on the basis of the draft report of the meeting to be prepared and presented by the Chair.

31. The meeting is expected to be closed at noon on Friday, 10 July 2009. It will be followed by an optional visit to the Montreal Botanical Gardens.

Annex I

**PROVISIONAL LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE SOUTH-SOUTH-EXCHANGE MEETING
ON THE CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF FOREST BIODIVERSITY**

| <i>Symbol</i> | <i>Title</i> |
|--------------------------------|---|
| UNEP/CBD/EXM/SS/CSUFB/1/1 | Provisional agenda |
| UNEP/CBD/EXM/SS/CSUFB/1/1Add.1 | Annotations to the provisional agenda |
| UNEP/CBD/BM-SSC/1/3 | Report of the Brainstorming Meeting on South-South Cooperation on Biodiversity |
| UNEP/CBD/EM-SSC/1/3 | Report of the Expert Meeting for South-South Cooperation on Biodiversity for Development |

Annex II

PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK

| Tuesday, 7 July 2009 | |
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| 7 p.m. | Informal dinner at <i>Restaurant Les Pyrénées</i> (320 Saint Paul Street West, Montreal) |
| Wednesday, 8 July 2009 | |
| 9 a.m. | Registration |
| 9.30-10 a.m. | Welcome by Mr. Ahmed Djoghlaif, Executive Secretary of the CBD Welcome remarks on behalf of GTZ Self-introduction of participants: affiliation, expertise, expectations Organization of work (<i>Suhel al-Janabi and Tim Christophersen</i>) |
| Technical session: REDD-plus, Forest-related Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES), Access and Benefit -sharing (ABS) | |
| 10 a.m.-12.30 p.m. (with coffee break) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • REDD-plus update and capacity building module - main challenges and opportunities for forest biodiversity and indigenous and local communities (<i>Rane G. Cortez, The Nature Conservancy</i>) • Update on UN REDD, World Bank/FCPF and ITTO REDD-ES activities |
| 12.30-1.30 p.m. | <i>Lunch break</i> |
| 1.30-2 p.m. | REDD-plus update (continued)/Discussion |
| 2-2.30 p.m. | Overview of forest-related Payments for Ecosystem Service (PES) programmes (<i>Richard M. Huber, Organization of American States (OAS)</i>) |
| 2.30-3.30 p.m. | Overview of ABS negotiations (<i>Valerie Normand, SCBD</i>) ABS and Forests: Cases and findings from the African Workshop on ABS and forests (<i>Suhel al-Janabi GTZ and n.n. COMIFAC</i>) |
| 3.30-4 p.m. | <i>Coffee break</i> |
| Forest-related processes and updates on relevant programmes of work | |
| 4-4.30 p.m. | Recent developments in the frameworks of the CBD and UNFF intergovernmental policy processes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations by CBD and UNFF secretariats (<i>Tim Christophersen, SCBD, and Catalina Santamaria, UNFFS</i>) • Discussion: Current regional cooperation approaches and possible synergies for the planning and implementation of activities in the regions |
| 4.30-5.15 p.m. | Updates about activities of the CBD Secretariat on relevant programmes of work and |

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| | cross-cutting issues (5 min each): <i>Climate Change, Protected areas, International Year of Biodiversity, Sustainable Tourism, Invasive Alien Species</i> |
| Thursday, 9 July 2009 | |
| Implementation of regional and international commitments in the regions | |
| 9 a.m.-12 p.m. (with coffee break) | Presentations by COMIFAC, ASEAN and ACTO followed by discussions on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing regional institutional arrangements and added value for mainstreaming SFM at national level • Opportunities and obstacles for implementation in the regions • Opportunities for South-South cooperation |
| 12 noon -1 p.m. | <i>Lunch break</i> |
| 1-1.30 p.m. | Introduction of resources and tools for South-South cooperation at the disposal of regional bodies in 2009 and 2010 |
| 1.30-5 p.m. (with coffee break) | Discussion on regional opportunities and challenges for REDD-plus, PES, ABS, and poverty alleviation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key opportunities and challenges in each region, and key lessons learned • Opportunities and elements for South-South cooperation • Next steps <p><i>(Moderator: Ravi Sharma, SCBD)</i></p> |
| Friday, 10 July 2009 | |
| Forest biodiversity for poverty alleviation and sustainable development processes: cross-sectoral integration and mainstreaming/next steps for South-South cooperation | |
| 9-9.30 a.m. | Mainstreaming forest biodiversity and SFM: Lessons learned from North-South cooperation (<i>Eric Belvaux, SCBD, and Alberto Vega, SCBD/GTZ</i>) |
| 9.30 a.m.-12 noon (with coffee break) | Discussion of Road Map for South-South cooperation and next steps / Workshop evaluation / Wrap-up by the Chair and closing statement by Prof. Seyani, Member of CBD COP-9 Bureau |
| 12.30-13.30 p.m. | <i>Lunch break</i> |
| 1.30-5.30 p.m. | Tour of the Montreal Botanical Gardens (optional) |
