



CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Distr.
GENERAL

UNEP/CBD/WS-CB/ILC/LAC/1/2
1 November 2009

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

AD WORKSHOP FOR INDIGENOUS AND LOCAL COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN REGION ON THE CONVENTION PROCESSES WITH A FOCUS ON ARTICLE 8(J) AND ARTICLE 15 (ABS)

Second meeting: Montreal
Montreal, 29-31 October 2009

REPORT OF THE CAPACITY-BUILDING WORKSHOP FOR INDIGENOUS AND LOCAL COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN REGION ON THE CONVENTION PROCESSES WITH A FOCUS ON ARTICLE 8(J) AND ARTICLE 15 (ABS)

INTRODUCTION

A. *Background*

1. Under Article 8(j) of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Parties undertake to respect, preserve and maintain the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, and promote their wider application with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices.
2. Furthermore the Convention has a rich history of decisions, requesting capacity building for indigenous and local communities to ensure their effective participation in the Convention processes. The more recent decisions include:
 - i. Decision VII/16, Annex (Elements of a Plan of Action), E (Capacity-building, education and training), paragraph 26, indicating that “Specific capacity-building activities should be targeted at indigenous women and women in rural or otherwise marginal communities, and at traditional knowledge, innovations and practices”;
 - ii. Decision VIII/5, B II, Elements of a Plan of Action for the Retention of Traditional Knowledge, Innovations and Practices Embodying Traditional Lifestyles Relevant for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity, paragraph 13, in which the COP requested the Executive Secretary “to collaborate with Parties in convening, subject to the availability of financial resources, regional and subregional workshops to assist indigenous and local communities in capacity-building, education and training, with particular emphasis on the participation of women from indigenous and local communities”;

- iii. Decision IX 13, *D*, concerning the plan of action for the retention of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, in which Parties decided that the priority for future work on the plan of action should focus on section E, on capacity-building¹;
- iv. Decision IX 13 E, paragraph 7, Participatory Mechanisms, which requested the Executive Secretary to: “(a) Convene, subject to the availability of financial resources, further regional and sub-regional workshops on community-friendly communication tools on traditional knowledge related to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, to assist local and indigenous communities in their use and to facilitate the establishment of communication networks, noting the need for adapting them to local languages and for involving trainers from indigenous and local communities”;
- v. Decision VIII/5 C, paragraph 6(c) concerning the International Regime on Access and Benefit Sharing, which invited Parties, Governments, donor countries and organizations to “facilitate the participation of indigenous and local communities in preparatory processes for the meetings of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing and the Ad Hoc Open-ended Inter-Sessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions”.

3. In accordance with these decisions and thanks to the generosity of the Government of Spain, the Executive Secretary convened a Capacity-building Workshop, for indigenous and local community representatives from the Latin American and Caribbean region, with a focus on indigenous and local community women, on effective participation in Convention processes and specifically on Article 8(j) (Traditional Knowledge) and Article 15 (Access and Benefit Sharing). The purpose of the workshop was to improve the capacity of the ILC representatives from the LAC region to effectively participate in the Convention processes.

4. This workshop was held in Montreal, Canada from 29 to 31 October on the eve of the 6th meeting of the Working Group on Article 8(j) and related provisions. Indigenous and local communities were invited, by the Executive Secretary on 18 August 2009 through notification 2009-097, to nominate participants for this meeting. Through notification 2009-121 of 23 September 2009, the Executive Secretary informed Parties of the list of participants for the Workshop. Selected participants received a travel grant, which included a daily allowance to allow them to participate in the 6th Working Group on Article 8(j), so that lessons learnt could be put into practice.

5. A list of documents and resources used for the workshop is available in annex I of the annotated agenda (UNEP/CBD/WS-CB-ILC-LAC-01).

B. Attendance

6. A total of 22 indigenous and local community representatives (19 women and 3 men) participated in the workshop. The complete list of participants is available in annex I of this report.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

7. The meeting was opened at 9.30 a.m. on Thursday, 29 November 2009, by Mr. John Scott, on behalf of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Mr. Ahmed Djoghla. He welcomed the participants in due attention to this critical moment in the life of article 8(j) and the Convention itself, as 2010 approaches and in defining post 2010 commitments.

8. Ms. Viviana Figueroa also welcomed participants and briefly outlined the agenda.

9. After the opening of the meeting, the participants were asked to introduce themselves and outline their expectations of the Workshop.

10. The Deputy Executive Director, Mr. Olivier Jalbert, also officially welcomed the participants on behalf of the Executive Secretary and offered some words of encouragement on behalf of the Executive Secretary.

ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

2.1. Agenda

11. Participants adopted the provisional agenda (UNEP/CBD/WS-CB-IILC-LAC-01) prepared by the Executive Secretary and circulated in advance of the meeting.

2.2. Organization of work

12. At the first session, on 29 October 2007, the proposed programme of work was approved as contained in the annotations to the provisional agenda (UNEP/CBD/).

2.3 Objectives of the workshop

13. Ms. Viviana Figueroa, the associate programme officer for Article 8(j), took the participants through the objectives of this capacity-building workshop in the context of decisions VIII/5, VIII/11 and IX/13 of the Conference of the Parties. The main objective was to enhance the capacity of the indigenous and local community representatives to effectively participate in the Convention processes with a focus on article 8(j) and article 15 (ABS).

14. In addition, the Workshop provided an opportunity to exchange relevant national and regional experiences within the Latin America and the Caribbean region. By seeing how others had addressed similar challenges, indigenous and local communities could learn new approaches, which could potentially become best practices.

15. The major expected outputs of this workshop were capacity building which directly assisted the participants in understanding the Convention processes, the drafting of position papers, and feedback to improve future workshops. Given the Workshop was the first of a series of workshops, it provided the Secretariat with concrete advice on how to improve delivery as well as an opportunity to meet with key people to plan the sub-regional workshops to be delivered in 2010.

ITEM 3. OVERVIEW OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

16. Under this item, the associate programme officer presented an overview of the Convention and its subsidiary bodies. Participants expressed particular interest in mechanisms that deal with traditional knowledge, ABS, protected areas and future strategic directions. The presentation consisted of three parts. The first one was a general background on the Convention, its goals and subsidiary bodies (structure of the Convention). The second part was an overview of mechanisms dealing with particular issues such as protected areas, forests and climate change. The last part provided an overview of the Secretariat and its divisions and units, including thematic areas and cross-cutting issues.

17. Participants also expressed interest in the politic groups of the Parties to the Convention, as well as the reporting mechanisms such as the national reports.

ITEM 4. MECHANISMS FOR THE EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION OF ILC REPRESENTATIVES IN THE WORK OF THE CONVENTION

18. The associate programme officer then presented on ways and means to effectively engage in the Convention processes, which included how to use the SCBD website, documentation systems, the national reports and the operation of the voluntary fund for ILC participation in meetings held under the Convention. In particular participants were familiarized with the article 8(j) webpages and the traditional knowledge information portal.

19. Participants were provided with opportunities to use the webpages and to find information on various issues, as well as how to locate meetings and documents.

ITEM 5. OVERVIEW OF ARTICLE 15 – ACCESS TO GENETIC RESOURCES AND ASSOCIATED TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND THE EQUITABLE SHARING OF BENEFITS ARISING FROM THEIR USE, WITH A FOCUS ON THE ELABORATION AND NEGOTIATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL REGIME ON ABS

20. Decision VIII/5 C, paragraph 6(c), concerning the International Regime on Access and Benefit Sharing, stresses the importance of indigenous and local community participation in preparatory processes for both Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing and the Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions. This particular agenda item provided participants with knowledge about issues and working methods of the two working groups.

ITEM 6. OVERVIEW OF ARTICLE 8(J) AND RELATED PROVISIONS, AND ITS WORKS TO DATE

21. Participants were provided with an overview of article 8(j) and its nature as a cross-cutting issue under the Convention. Participants spoke at length on the value of traditional knowledge to other parts of the Convention with a focus on thematic areas, including the ecosystem approach and protected areas, as well as sustainable use (article 10c).

ITEM 7. ANALYSIS OF THE AGENDA OF THE 6 TH MEETING OF THE WG8(J)

22. As the travel grants of successful participants included a daily allowance to (remain on to) participate in the 6 WG8(j), this agenda item was particularly useful in allowing the participants to carefully analyse the agenda and to plan their participation strategy as well as to develop various position papers, according to their own political and cultural situations. Participants will also participate in the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB) on Sunday 1 November and hence this workshop assisted greatly in their preparations for the indigenous preparatory meetings. Participants were encouraged to choose a particular issue of importance to them and then to follow that issue through at the WG 8(j).

ITEM 8. CONSIDERATION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL REGIME ON ACCESS TO GENETIC RESOURCES AND ASSOCIATED TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND EQUITABLE SHARING OF BENEFITS ARISING FROM THEIR USE

23. Under this agenda item, the participants were provided with an overview of the ABS process leading to COP 10 and the adoption of the International Regime on ABS. This included an overview of the issues and various regional positions. Participants also noted that various positions had emerged amongst indigenous and local communities because of the unique cultural and national circumstances of the various stakeholders.

24. Participants also discussed the work of WIPO on related issues – traditional knowledge, traditional cultural expressions and genetic resources and how the CBD and WIPO interfaced on these issues, noting their respective mandates.

25. Participants analyzed the working documents for the 8 WG ABS, including the reports of the expert group meetings and specifically the reports on traditional knowledge and compliance. It was noted that the WG8(j) has been specifically requested to provide focused views to the WG ABS based on these two reports.

26. Participants expressed that the information provided was extremely valuable in assisting the group to understand where the process is currently at regarding the negotiation of the IR on ABS and how they may be able to best influence the process.

ITEM 9. OTHER MATTERS

27. On Saturday, 16 December, at the 5th session of the Workshop, the Secretariat presented IYB

ITEM 10. EVALUATION OF THE CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP

28. Under this agenda item, the associate programme officer asked participants to complete an evaluation form for the workshop (refer annex II). She explains the evaluations would be collated and analyzed to assist the SCBD in improving the organization and delivery of future workshops.

The analysis revealed that:

- A) Most of the participants rated the workshop as excellent, given in a language simple and clear. Their expectations were fulfilled and what they learnt is fully applicable to their activities.
- B) Most of the participants rated the content given in the workshop as very good.
- C) Most of the participants qualified the support materials received (folder containing a CD and publications in Spanish of the Secretariat) as excellent.
- D) The participants suggested the following for future subregional workshops
 - i) To include a space for exchange of experience and materials on ABS and 8(j) in print or digital formats for dissemination.
 - ii) The workshop participants should submit information on their activities to disseminate the lessons learned at local and national levels.
 - iii) To support the continuous training of participants as well as updates on the progress of the issues.
 - iv) To give a summary text of the official documents of the meeting and other documents of CBD.

29.

ITEM 11. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

30. An expected output of this workshop was that participating ILC representatives had their capacity built to participate in the Convention processes, with a focus on the WG meetings to be held in the next two weeks. In closing, participants expressed that they felt better prepared to work with other indigenous and local community members of the IIFB, as well as more knowledgeable about the processes of the Convention and how to effectively participate to influence the outcomes. They also felt they had acquired a better understanding of the agenda and issues currently being addressed in 8j and ABS processes.

31. The meeting was declared closed by a representative of the Executive Secretary at 6.00 pm on Saturday 31 October 2009.

*Annex I***PARTICIPANTS LIST**

Selected Participants funding assistance for Latin American and Caribbean Indigenous and Local Community Capacity Building Workshop on the Convention on Biological Diversity including issues relevant to Article 8(j) Traditional Knowledge & Access and Benefit-sharing
Montreal, Canada 29 - 31 October 2009.

Country	Organization	Name
1. Argentina	Juventud Indígena Argentina	Srita. Delia Viviana Díaz
2. Bolivia	Centro de Estudios Multidisciplinarios Aymara	Sra. María Eugenia Choque
3. Brasil	Cooperativa ecologica de las mujeres colectoras de la Isla de Marajo	Sra. Thaisa Oliveira Pinheiro
4. Brasil	Institut Indigène de Propriété Intellectuelle INBRAPI	Lucia Fernanda Inacio Belfort
5. Brasil	Institut Indigène de Propriété Intellectuelle INBRAPI	Luciana Cundari de Araujo
6. Chile	Comunidad Indígena Ancestral Lago Chungara	Sra. Silvia Nelly López Blanco
7. Chile	Consejo Autónomo Aymara	Srita. Hortencia Cecilia Hidalgo Cáceres
8. Colombia	Fuerza de Mujeres Wayuu	Srita. Evelin Carolina Acosta Gutiérrez
9. Colombia	Centro de Defensa para la Promoción y Defensa de los Derechos Indígena Yanapanakuy	Sra. Edith Bastidas
10. Ecuador	Andes Chinchansuyo	Sra. Yolanda Terán
11. El Salvador	Rescate Ancestral Indígena Salvadoreño RAIS	Sra. Deysi Esther Cierra Anaya
12. Guatemala	Asociación de Mujeres Ixq aniil Palaq ha-Consejo Nacional Gubernamental de Areas Protegidas	Sra. Ana Francisca Pérez Conguache
13. Guatemala	AKTENAMIT	Sra. Dolores Cabnal
14. Mexico	Red Indígena de Turismo de Mexico RITA	Srita. Daniela Juarez Villa
15. Nicaragua	Centro para la autonomía y desarrollo de los pueblos indígenas CADPI	Sr. Ceferino Wilson White
16. Panamá	Red de Mujeres Indígenas Sobre Biodiversidad	Ms. Florina Lopez Miro
17. Panamá	Fundación Ngabe-Bugle FUNGOBE-B	Mary Acosta Pinilla
18. Paraguay	Organización del Pueblo Guarani OPG	Sra. Faustina Sosima Alvarenga Perez
19. Perú	Centro de Culturas Indígenas del Perú CHIRAPAC	Sra. Nadesca Pachao Ayala
20. Puerto Rico	United Confederation of Taino People	Sra. Liselote Naniki Reyes Ocasio
21. Venezuela	Fundacion Intercultural ALITASIA	Jimai Montiel Calles
22. Venezuela	Red de Cooperacion Amazonica (REDCAM).	Santiago Obispo

Annex II

**EVALUATION FORM OF THE WORKSHOP
INCLUDING ADVICE ON HOW TO IMPROVE FUTURE WORKSHOPS**

**Taller de creación de capacidad para Latinoamérica y el Caribe sobre el CDB
incluyendo el Artículo 8(j) y Acceso y participación en los beneficios**

Segundo Taller
Montreal, 29 – 31 Octubre de 2009

Evaluación del Taller

Sírvase responder a los diferentes preguntas con el fin de evaluar el taller incluyendo sus sugerencias para futuros talleres

NOMBRE:	
ORGANIZACIÓN:	
PAÍS:	
DATOS DE CONTACTO	

I. EXPECTATIVAS

¿En general, qué calificativo puede dar al taller?

Excelente Satisfactorio No satisfactorio

Sugerencias para próximos talleres:

¿Lo que ha aprendido es aplicable en sus actividades?

Totalmente Parcialmente Escasamente

Sugerencias para próximos talleres:

II. CONTENIDO

¿En general, que calificativo puede dar a los contenidos del taller?

Muy bueno

Bueno

Inadecuado

Sugerencias para próximos talleres:

III. MATERIAL DE APOYO

¿En general, que calificativo puede dar al material que recibió del taller?

Excelente

Satisfactorio

No satisfactorio

Sugerencias para próximos talleres:

IV. OTRO COMENTARIO

Otras sugerencias o recomendaciones que desee realizar.
