



## **Convention on Biological Diversity**

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**AD HOC OPEN-ENDED INTER-SESSIONAL  
WORKING GROUP ON ARTICLE 8(j) AND  
RELATED PROVISIONS OF THE  
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

Sixth meeting  
Montreal, 2-6 November 2009

**COMPILATION OF INFORMATION/CASE-STUDIES REGARDING THE NATIONAL  
TESTING AND USE OF INDICATORS**

*Note by the Executive Secretary*

### **INTRODUCTION**

1. In accordance with paragraphs 7 and 8 of decision IX/13 H, of the Conference of the Parties, the Executive Secretary is circulating herewith, for the consideration of participants in the sixth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Inter-Sessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions, a compilation of views and comments submitted by Parties, Governments and organizations on experiences and lessons learned in designing and, as appropriate, testing, national indicators for status and trends of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, in order to assess progress toward the 2010 target and implementation of the Strategic Plan. This compilation will assist in the consideration of document UNEP/CBD/WG8J/6/2/Add.4, concerning an analysis of the information available on proposed indicators.
2. The submissions received are reproduced in the form and language in which they were provided.

## **SUBMISSIONS**

### ***Submissions from Parties***

#### ***1. Australia***

#### **INDICATORS FOR ASSESSING PROGRESS TOWARDS THE 2010 BIODIVERSITY TARGET: STATUS OF TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE, INNOVATIONS AND PRACTICES**

Australia does not have any specific experience in designing or testing indicators for status and trends of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices.

#### ***2. European Community***

#### **EU SUBMISSION in response to CBD NOTIFICATION No. 2009-003**

#### **IV. INDICATORS FOR ASSESSING PROGRESS TOWARDS THE 2010 BIODIVERSITY TARGET: STATUS OF TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE, INNOVATIONS AND PRACTICES:**

The EU supports the efforts of Parties to identify indicators on traditional knowledge in the framework of the CBD's Strategic Plan for assessing progress towards the 2010 biodiversity target.

In this context, it fully supports decision IX/13 H paragraph 3 that recommends a maximum of two additional indicators for inclusion in this framework.

The EU furthermore continues to appreciate the very substantive and informative results included in documents UNEP/CBD/WG8J/5/8 that resulted from expert workshops organised by the IIFB with financial support of the governments of Norway, Spain and Sweden.

To enrich further discussions on indicators at Article 8(j) WG6, the EU submits the following further reflections of a more general nature:

Indicators have an important role to play in order to assess the progress in the implementation of measures aiming at the protection of traditional knowledge. It is perhaps even more important to use relevant indicators for the assessment of status and trends of traditional knowledge when measures are to be selected. The indicators have to be efficient and relevant which imply that they should relate to the context where they are used. Considering the variability in cultural and site specific conditions, indicators need to address a relevant level of resolution in order to be useful. This means that it can be appropriate to use different sets of indicators depending on the objective of a survey or assessment. Indicators with a high resolution may address specific conditions at the local level. In order to be able to generalize and to extrapolate such results and experiences to another site or context, the development of high resolution indicators need to communicate directly or to be part of a subset of indicators that adds to an overriding, global indicator.

It is important to include indicators related to the status of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices in the 2010 Biodiversity Target to raise awareness of the importance of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices;

Measuring indicators may become time-consuming and compete with resources that are needed for the development and implementation of strategies for strengthening traditional knowledge, innovations and practices;

Indicators thus need to be kept at a manageable number and scope;

Strengthening traditional knowledge, innovations and practices can only be done in consultative processes with indigenous and local communities. Such processes take time and require flexibility. The development of indicators needs to take account of this.