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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

Item 3 of the provisional agenda*

PARTICIPATORY MECHANISMS FOR INDIGENOUS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES IN THE WORK OF THE CONVENTION

Note by the Executive Secretary

INTRODUCTION

1. At its ninth meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopted several decisions relevant to the effective participation and capacity-building of indigenous and local communities in the work of the Convention. Paragraph 5 of decision IX/13 E and paragraph 3 of decision IX/13 I focus on the development of public awareness materials in order to facilitate the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities and opportunities for common activities as related to information exchange and awareness-raising. Other related decisions and in particular paragraph 1 of decision IX/13 D, and paragraph 7 of decision IX/13 E focus on the facilitation of capacity-building initiatives to ensure the effective participation of indigenous and local communities in the work of the Convention, as well as the development of communication mechanisms and the promotion of the voluntary fund for the participation of indigenous and local communities in the work of the Convention.

2. In an effort to provide a more structured meeting and reporting process, the present document reports on the implementation of these various decisions under the headings of: capacity-building; development of communications, mechanisms and tools to facilitate the effective participation of indigenous and local communities in the work of the Convention, participation of indigenous and local communities in the work of the Convention, including through the Voluntary Fund; and other initiatives.

3. Furthermore, this working document is supplemented with several information documents of relevance to these issues and specifically:

(a) Reports of the Arctic region and Pacific Island region workshops in the Indigenous Communities, Tourism and Biodiversity Workshop Series: New Information and Web-based Technologies (UNEP/CBD/WG8J/6/INF/6 and UNEP/CBD/WG8J/6/INF/7);

* UNEP/CBD/WG8J/6/1.

- (b) Reports of capacity-building workshops (UNEP/CBD/WG8J/6/INF/8 and 9); and
- (c) Report of the Indigenous and Local Community, Business and Biodiversity Consultation, held in New York on 12 and 13 May 2009 (UNEP/CBD/WG8J/6/INF/11).

I. CAPACITY-BUILDING EFFORTS

4. The Parties have acknowledged the importance of capacity-building as a tool for the effective participation of indigenous and local communities, most recently in decision IX/13 D, on the plan of action for the retention of indigenous knowledge, ^{1/} in paragraph 1 of which the Parties decided that the priority for future work on the plan of action should focus on section E, on capacity-building, and decision IX/13 E (“Participatory mechanisms for indigenous and local communities in the Convention”), as well as in the related decisions on access and benefit-sharing, including paragraph 22 of decision IX/12.

5. To optimize the use of limited resources and to ensure the effective implementation of decisions of the Conference of the Parties, the Secretariat pursues opportunities for capacity-building for indigenous and local communities beyond official capacity-building workshops. In particular, on the margins of many official meetings under the Convention, such as the Working Group on Article 8(j) and the Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing, and on the margin of meetings under other processes, the Secretariat provides briefings and capacity-building to both the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity and the Indigenous Women’s Biodiversity Network, as well as civil society and non-governmental organizations, on request.

6. For example, a capacity-building workshop for indigenous and local community women was held in partnership with IUCN and the gender focal point of the Convention on Biological Diversity, on the eve of the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, held in Bonn in May 2008, and again on the margins of the seventh meeting of the Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing, held in Paris in April 2009.

7. Furthermore, briefings were provided to both the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB) and the CBD Alliance at both the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and the seventh meeting of the Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing. Briefings and capacity-building are also provided to indigenous peoples with a special emphasis on women, on the eve of the annual sessions of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and to the regular sessions of the World Intellectual Property Organization’s Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional knowledge and Folklore, and most recently at its twelfth and thirteenth sessions.

8. The Secretariat also regularly liaises with donor Governments and develops proposals for their consideration, to ensure that resources are available for official capacity-building workshops. In particular, thanks to the ongoing patronage of the Government of Spain, the Secretariat has been able to enter into a three-year memorandum of understanding with the Indigenous Women’s Biodiversity Network for Latin America and the Caribbean to develop a three-year strategy (2008-10), subject to the availability of annual funding. This memorandum of understanding will be reviewed pending the outcomes of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, with a view to continuing these efforts to expand the Indigenous Women’s Biodiversity Network and to strengthen the members’ capacity to participate in Convention processes.

^{1/} Decision VII/16 E, annex.

9. Under the three-year strategy, a regional and a global workshop ²will be facilitated on the eve of the sixth meeting of the Working Group on Article 8(j) in November 2009, and a further four subregional workshops are being planned for 2010, complemented by two regional and global capacity-building workshops prior to, respectively, the ninth meeting of the Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing and the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The report of the workshop facilitated in 2008 is available as an information document for the meeting (UNEP/CBD/WG8J/6/INF/8). ³

10. Thanks to an initiative of the Brazilian Indigenous Institute for Intellectual Property (INBRAPI), the Secretariat participated also in the second edition of the International Indigenous Caucus on Access and Protection of Traditional Knowledge and Biodiversity, held in Brasilia, from 25 to 27 March 2008, as a preparatory meeting to the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The workshop brought together some 70 indigenous peoples representatives from the various Brazilian regions, many of whom participated in the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. Furthermore, a capacity-building workshop for Latin American and Caribbean Indigenous Women on Processes under the Convention on Biological Diversity in Preparation for the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, was organized by the Indigenous Women's Biodiversity Network of the Latin American and Caribbean region and the Fundación Para la Promoción del Conocimiento Indígena (FPCI) in partnership with the Secretariat, in Panama, from 7 to 9 April 2008. The workshop brought together 40 indigenous women from the various Latin American countries. Many of these women participated effectively in the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

11. In conclusion, acknowledging the role of the Spanish Government in providing a commitment in the form of an long-term memorandum of understanding, accompanied by annual funding that can allow for long-term planning, the Secretariat takes this opportunity to draw attention to the three-year capacity-building strategy developed for the Latin American and the Caribbean region as a useful model for other regions, should a suitable donor Government be identified.

Associate Programme Officer for Article 8(j)

12. Again thanks to the generosity of the Government of Spain, the Secretariat has established an associate programme officer position for the Article 8(j) team. ⁴ In May of this year, an indigenous lawyer from Argentina was appointed for initial training. In due course, she is expected to lead the capacity-building efforts in the Latin American and Caribbean region on issues relevant to Article 8(j) and access and benefit-sharing.

Tourism workshops

13. In paragraph 7 (a) of decision IX/13 E, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to convene, subject to the availability of financial resources, further regional and subregional workshops on community-friendly communication tools on traditional knowledge related to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Similarly, in paragraph 6 (a) of decision VIII/5 D, the Executive Secretary was requested to convene, subject to the availability of financial resources, regional and subregional workshops on new information and web-based technologies to assist indigenous and local communities in their use and to facilitate the establishment of communication networks.

²/ A Latin American and Caribbean regional capacity-building workshop for indigenous and local communities, to be held in Montreal from 26 to 28 October 2009, and a global capacity-building workshop for indigenous and local communities, be held at the same venue on 29-30 October 2009.

³/ Report of the Capacity-Building Workshop for Indigenous Latin American Women on the Processes of the Convention on Biological Diversity, in preparation for the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

⁴/ The Article 8(j) team is composed of a Programme Officer and a Programme Assistant, and this new position is an Associate Programme Officer and is subject to the ongoing availability of annual funding.

14. Furthermore, through paragraph 8 of its decision VII/14, on biological diversity and tourism, the Conference of the Parties invited relevant organizations to provide indigenous and local communities with capacity-building and financial resources to support their active participation in tourism policy-making, development planning, product development and management indicated by the Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development contained in the annex to that decision.

15. In paragraph 3 (c) (ii) of the same decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to promote the use of the Convention's clearing-house mechanism to collect and disseminate information, best practices, lessons learned and case-studies on the involvement of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles in sustainable tourism and ecotourism activities and projects.

16. In response to these decisions, the Secretariat, in partnership with Carleton University (Ottawa, Canada), and with the financial support of Canada and Spain, proposed to hold a series of regional and subregional workshops aimed at capacity-building for indigenous and local communities in support of the enhanced implementation of the Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development under the Convention on Biological Diversity, with the view to support and strengthen indigenous and local initiatives in this area.

17. This first workshop was dedicated to the Arctic region, in recognition of the International Polar Year from March 2007 to March 2008, and considering the distinct challenges of remote rural Arctic destinations. The workshop was held near Quebec City from 19 to 21 November 2007, and the report is being made available as an information document for the Working Group (UNEP/CBD/WG8J/6/INF/6). A second workshop was held for the Pacific region from 3 to 5 November 2008, in Apia. The report of that workshop is also being circulated as an information document (UNEP/CBD/WG8J/6/INF/7). The third workshop is planned for late November 2009 for indigenous and local community tourism operators in the Latin American and Caribbean region. Additional workshops are scheduled to take place in Africa, and South-East Asia, with a focus on forest basins, islands, mountains, and dry and sub-humid areas in 2010 and future years.

18. These workshops have proven to be highly successful and practical events, which in essence have trained indigenous and local-community tourism operators on how to better market their tourism products to the benefit of both themselves and biodiversity. These events have also allowed for indigenous and local community tourism operators to network and exchange best practices and to make a positive impact on mainstream tourism.

II. THE DEVELOPMENT OF MECHANISMS AND TOOLS TO FACILITATE THE EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION OF INDIGENOUS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES IN THE WORK OF THE CONVENTION

19. In line with advice provided through the informal advisory group on the clearing-house mechanism, the former Advisory Group to Article 8(j) and Related Provisions, and the Capacity-building Workshop on Networking and Information Exchange, which met in Quito in October, 2007, the Indigenous Working Group on Communication, Education and Public Awareness, and pursuant to decision IX/13 E of the Conference of the Parties, the Secretariat has developed a number of participatory mechanisms in an effort to ensure full and effective participation by indigenous and local communities in the work of the Convention.

Web-based mechanisms and tools

20. The electronic mechanisms under continuing development are the Article 8(j) webpage and the Traditional Knowledge Information Portal, which are electronic and make use of web-based systems,

attempting to incorporate many communication and interactive components in an effort to facilitate dialogue, exchange ideas and disseminate knowledge and information among indigenous and local communities. In particular, the Traditional Knowledge Information Portal (TKIP) incorporates an electronic conferencing platform, which was first used from 10 February to 10 March 2009, to facilitate an effective and useful expert discussion on how to advance and implement Article 10 (c) of the Convention, in response to paragraph 4 of decision IX/13 A. ^{5/} This dialogue has made a significant contribution to the development of the analysis of case-studies and advice on how Article 10(c) can be further advanced and implemented as a priority (UNEP/CBD/WG8J/6/2/Add.1). Similar work is being completed for the webpage and portal on access and benefit-sharing to facilitate the timely exchange of information and to improve the effective participation of all stakeholders, including indigenous and local communities in the access and benefit-sharing process.

21. The Article 8(j) homepage introduces Article 8(j) and related provisions and offers information about: the participation of indigenous and local communities, including through the recently established Voluntary Trust Fund (VB) for Facilitating Participation of Indigenous and Local Communities in the Convention process; decisions under Article 8(j), including the programme of work and the plan of action for the retention of traditional knowledge; the outcomes of Article 8(j); and other information regarding Article 8(j)-related meetings and documents and notifications; as well of an entry point into the Traditional Knowledge Information Portal (TKIP).

22. Electronic participatory mechanisms are integrated through an Internet-based portal located on the Convention's website at: <http://www.cbd.int/tk/default.shtml> and is referred to as the Traditional Knowledge Information Portal (TKIP). An Internet-base portal is a specialized website that provides a variety of services including web-searching, news, calendaring, discussion groups, interactive information exchange mechanisms, etc., developed for indigenous and local communities in support of the goals and objectives of the Convention. Parties, organizations and indigenous and local communities were notified of the activation of the Portal on 16 December 2005, and the TKIP was updated, revised and reactivated on 22 May 2007.

23. The Traditional Knowledge Information Portal has eight different components, including:

(a) A calendaring system where users are able to plan, organize and discuss virtual or face-to-face meetings;

(b) A number of discussion forums where it is possible to initiate new discussions, reply to existing comments and communicate on issues of relevancy to the community;

(c) Background material where users may submit to the Secretariat for posting documents, reports, articles, etc.;

(d) A section related to the programme of work on Article 8(j): traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, where users may comment on activities, request information and communicate with Programme Officers;

(e) A subscription service to the various information dissemination services offered by the Secretariat, and to other services offered by indigenous and local communities;

(f) A section on relevant websites, networks and other resources where users are able to submit new entries and links;

^{5/} Article 10(c) of the Convention refers to the protection and encouragement of customary use of biological resources in accordance with traditional cultural practices that are compatible conservation or sustainable use requirements.

(g) A simple syndication-service (RSS, an XML (eXtended Markup Language) format designed for sharing web content such as information on new notifications from the Convention on Biological Diversity, final reports, upcoming meetings and latest news. Using this service, websites are able to harvest automatically needed information from the website of the Convention;

(h) An electronic information centre where users are able to more easily locate information related to Article 8(j) and traditional knowledge.

24. Using these electronic tools, indigenous and local communities can:

(a) Research for information about traditional knowledge, innovations and practices and issues surrounding this subject;

(b) Check the calendar of events;

(c) Post community blogs (web-information);

(d) Participate in on-line electronic conferences;

(e) Subscribe to receive information about this area.

25. All in all, the portal is intended to be a collaborative tool for use by indigenous and local communities, where users are able to interact and foster dialogue regardless of temporal and spatial constraints.

26. However, the effective use of the portal depends on infrastructure and adequate capacity, human and financial, both at the Secretariat and at the community level and acculturation to new information and web-based technologies by those unfamiliar with their use and application. This is best achieved through community level technical workshops and hands-on training.

27. The new revised Article 8(j) homepage, launched on the International Day for Biological Diversity on 22 May 2007, has been translated into Spanish, with the intention, subject to the availability of funds, of translating it into French and the other three United Nations languages. It is available at <http://www.cbd.int/traditional/default.shtml>. The translation into Spanish of the Convention's web pages, including Article 8(j) homepage and the Traditional Knowledge Information Portal followed by the web pages and portal on access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing, is financed through a generous contribution by the Government of Spain, and the work is ongoing.

28. Furthermore, in the spirit of decision IX/13 E, which requested the Executive Secretary to establish links to relevant existing, new and upcoming web-based initiatives such as the Indigenous Portal (www.indigenousportal.com), the Secretariat is working closely with the director and regional editors, ⁶/of this indigenous initiative to ensure the traditional knowledge portal and the indigenous portal complement each other and avoid duplication and overlap, allowing us to maximise limited resources in a creative partnership.

Traditional mechanisms and tools

29. The non-electronic based mechanisms under development rely on alternative more traditionally based communication tools, including fax, hard-copy, regular mail and other traditional means of communication and information exchange, including three editions to date of the Article 8(j) newsletter.

⁶/ The Indigenous Portal operates in four languages: English, Spanish, French and Russian.

Pachamama III ^{7/}, published in April 2009, is available both on hard copy and electronically in English and Spanish at <http://www.cbd.int/doc/newsletters/>. In addition, the Secretariat regularly makes available on request hard copies of relevant publications, including *Pachamama*, in various languages for use as capacity-building materials for indigenous and local community led initiatives and major events.

30. Furthermore, in response to paragraph 5 of decision IX/13 E, (which encourages the development of alternative means of communicating public information on traditional knowledge related to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in plain language and diverse community-friendly formats, such as video, including television, audio for community radio, songs, posters, theatre/drama, and film, in order to ensure the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, including women and youth, at local, national and international levels, while supporting the development by indigenous and local communities of their own media tools) and paragraph 3 of decision IX/13 I, (which requests the Executive Secretary to draw attention to the important role of indigenous and local communities in activities related to 2010 as the International Year of Biodiversity, and to cooperate closely with the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, to explore opportunities for common activities as related to information exchange and awareness-raising under the guidance of the Bureau), and again thanks to the continuing patronage of the Government of Spain, and after consultations with the indigenous and local community working group on CEPA, the Executive Secretary has proposed to the Bureau a menu of activities including but not limited to: animation, cartoons, posters, ^{8/} radio programmes in local languages, video-based materials, including advertisements and television, ^{9/} computer screen-savers, interactive computer games, development of children's books, a mobile exhibition (opening at the United Nations Headquarters in May 2010) and other materials for their consideration. As well as products specifically for indigenous and local communities, products are also under development through the Global Initiative on Communication, Education and Public-Awareness (CEPA), for the general public, to raise their awareness of the role of indigenous and local communities and their traditional knowledge in achieving the goals of the Convention.

31. Under the guidance of the Bureau and in partnership with the indigenous working group on CEPA, as well as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII), the Secretariat has initiated the development of some of these resources, with a view to showcasing them at various high-profile events in 2010, including but not limited to the ninth session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the International Congress on Biological and Cultural Diversity to be held in Montreal, from 19 to 23 July 2010 and the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, which will be held in October, in Nagoya, Japan.

III. PARTICIPATION OF INDIGENOUS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES IN THE WORK OF THE CONVENTION INCLUDING THROUGH THE VOLUNTARY FUND;

32. Pursuant to paragraph 6 (b) of decision VIII/5 D, the Executive Secretary put in place, in early 2007, infrastructure to monitor visits to the Convention homepage, the Article 8(j) homepage and the Traditional Knowledge Information Portal. Together with paragraph 7(c) of decision IX/13 E, requesting the Executive Secretary to continue to monitor the use of the Convention website and, in particular, the Article 8(j) homepage and the Traditional Knowledge Information Portal, and to consult to identify any

^{7/} *Pachamama* is available in colour hardcopy or electronically at <http://www.cbd.int/doc/newsletters/news-8j-01-low-en.pdf>. *Pachamama* means mother Earth (pacha: earth, mama: mother) in the Quecha /Aymara languages. The Earth is a divinity venerated by the Incas and other inhabitants of the Andean plateau such as the Aymara and the Quecha peoples.

^{8/} The Secretariat is working in partnership with UNESCO to ensure that seven posters from the seven indigenous geocultural regions on traditional knowledge are made available in the six United Nations languages and widely promoted and disseminated. The posters are available in English, French, Spanish and Bislama (Vanuatu) languages. See http://portal.unesco.org/science/en/ev.php-URL_ID=7438&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

^{9/} In partnership with the UNU TK Centre and the UNU Film and Video Unit.

gaps or shortcomings, and to report to the next meeting of the Working Group on progress made in establishing networks with indigenous and local communities; the Secretariat has collated statistical information to, amongst other things, establish trends in usage with the view of improving our efforts.

33. These statistics are being collected on an annual basis to assist in monitoring the effectiveness of communication and participation mechanisms and to establish trends in use. However, it should be noted that because of the biennial cycle of Convention meetings, it may be necessary to continue to collect statistics over a longer period of time, in order to establish trends between biennium.

Page	Hits		Page Views		Visitors	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
http://www.biodiv.org/traditional/default.shtml	13,106	6,998	12,993	6,899	8,915	5,669
http://www.cbd.int.tk/default.shtml	5,409	3,535	5,182	3,524	3,470	2,795
http://www.cbd.int/default.shtml	2,014,866	1,550,075	1,999,108	1,505,113	735,599	362,360

Voluntary Fund for the Participation of Indigenous and Local Communities

34. In paragraph 4 of its decision IX/13 E, the Conference of the Parties invited Parties, Governments and relevant funding institutions and mechanisms to donate to the General Trust Fund for Voluntary Contributions to Facilitate the Participation of Indigenous and Local Communities in the Work of the Convention on Biological Diversity (VB Trust Fund). In paragraph 7 (f) of the same decision, the Executive Secretary was requested to intensify efforts to promote the Trust Fund.

35. The Secretariat takes this opportunity to provide the following statistics. Taking into account, that the schedule of meetings can be irregular, and the numbers for 2009 are for the first four months only, there is a clear indication that increased numbers of indigenous and local community representatives are applying to the voluntary fund and a resulting significant increase in participation at relevant meetings under the Convention on Biological Diversity is evident.

ILCs funded through the Voluntary Fund for ILC Participation in Meetings held under the Convention, noting that more than 60% of funded participants are indigenous and local-community women

2007
WGABS5/WG8J5, Montreal, 15 to 19 October
22 ILCs funded 73 ILCs applied
Consultation on ABS, Montreal, 19-21 September
20 ILCs funded 32 ILCs applied
2008
Second meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Protected Areas (WGPA-2) and the thirteen meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA-13), 11-15 and 18-22 February FAO, Rome.
6 ILCs funded 14 ILCs applied
Ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP-9), 19–30 May, Bonn.

25 ILCs funded 70 ILCs applied
2009
Seventh meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing (ABSWG-7), Paris, 2-8 April 2009.
26 ILCs funded 72 ILCs applied
Other meetings, 3 ILCs funded.

36. The Governments of Austria, Canada, Finland, Germany, Norway, and Spain generously contributed to the Voluntary Fund during the period 2008-2009 to facilitate the participation of indigenous and local community representatives in the work of the Convention.

IV. OTHER INITIATIVES

Indigenous peoples, business and biodiversity consultation

37. In November 2008, the Secretariat was approached by the Natural Resources Stewardship Circle of the Aromatic, Perfume, and Cosmetics Industry and Tribal Link, a non-governmental organization, for advice and assistance in turning a commitment ^{10/} that they had made at their annual meeting in October 2008, to respect both the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, ^{11/} as well as other international standards and to turn this commitment into a reality, in their daily business dealings.

38. This industrial sector sources many of its natural extracts and ingredients directly from indigenous and local communities. Hence, an opportunity to bring these partners together was mutually beneficial and also beneficial for biodiversity. The consultation brought together approximately fifty participants from indigenous and local communities, the private sector, and the international community, for a two-day programme at United Nations Headquarters in New York, on 12-13 May 2009, on the eve of the eighth session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII). The full report of the meeting is made available as an information document (UNEP/CBD/WG8J/6/INF/11). The outcomes of the meetings were reported to the eighth session of the UNPFII under the agenda item of development.

39. The meeting was a lively and constructive exchange, which produced set of draft guidelines which will be considered by the Aromatic, Perfume, and Cosmetics Industry in October 2009 at its next annual meeting. The initial draft guidelines were also circulated at various venues for consultation with indigenous and local communities for broad consultation. After further development and adoption, the Natural Resources Stewardship Circle Declaration and Guidelines will be presented by the Industry at a reception planned for the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in October 2010.

40. Industry specialists consider that this model may be of relevance to other industries who may be interested in undertaking similar initiatives with the goal of protecting biodiversity and fostering creative partnerships with indigenous and local communities.

^{10/} The Natural Resources Stewardship Circle of the Aromatic, Perfume, and Cosmetics Industry have agreed upon a declaration based on key United Nations documents and aimed at enhanced corporate social responsibility for sustainable development, referred to as *The Natural Resources Stewardship Circle Declaration*

^{11/} General Assembly resolution 61/295, annex.

Annex

**DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS WITH REGARD TO PARTICIPATORY MECHANISMS AND
CAPACITY-BUILDING INITIATIVE FOR INDIGENOUS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES IN
THE WORK OF THE CONVENTION**

The Ad Hoc Open-Ended Inter-Sessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions may wish to recommend that the Conference of the Parties, at its tenth meeting, adopt decisions along the following lines:

A. *Capacity-building efforts*

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Welcomes with appreciation* the capacity-building efforts for indigenous and local communities on issues relevant to Article 8(j) and related provisions and Article 15 on Access and Benefit-sharing, specifically in the Latin American and Caribbean region and notes its usefulness as a model for other regions, especially considering the post 2010 implementation of the International Regime of Access and Benefit-sharing;
2. *Welcomes* the regional and subregional workshop series, aimed at capacity-building for indigenous and local communities in support of the enhanced implementation of the CBD Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development through web-based technologies, with the view to support and strengthen indigenous and local initiatives in this area, and *notes* the results of the workshops held for Arctic, Island and Forest ecosystems, held respectively in November 2007, 2008 and 2009;
3. *Encourages* the Secretariat to continue its efforts to ensure the effective implementation of decisions IX/13 D, and E, concerning capacity-building and taking into account decisions VIII/5 B, and C and VII/16 annex, and V/16, annex II, task 4, with a view to increasing the number of indigenous and local community representatives, particularly women, who are familiar with and participate in the work of the Convention, including its implementation at the national and local level;
4. *Requests* Parties, Governments and organizations to consider collaborating with the Secretariat to establish similar initiatives in other regions with the view to build and strengthen the capacity of indigenous and local community representatives, particularly women, to effectively participate in the work of the Convention especially those relevant to Article 8(j) and Article 15;
5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue to convene, subject to the availability of financial resources, regional and subregional capacity-building workshops on issues relevant to Article 8(j) of the Convention and access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing, to assist local and indigenous communities in their effective participation in the work of the Convention, with the view of growing their numbers and strengthening their capacity;
6. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to continue to convene, subject to the availability of financial resources, the series of regional and subregional workshops aimed at capacity-building for indigenous and local communities in support of the enhanced implementation of the Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development under the Convention on Biological Diversity through enhanced marketing strategies and web-based technologies, for dry and sub-humid lands (Africa) and for mountains (Central Asia) and to report the results to the next meeting of the working group for its consideration.

B. *Development of communications, mechanisms and tools to facilitate the effective participation of indigenous and local communities in the work of the Convention*

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing work concerning electronic mechanisms, as the Article 8(j) homepage and the Traditional Knowledge Information Portal, related initiatives including partnerships with the www.indigenousportal.com by the Secretariat and *requests* the Executive Secretary to report on the advancement of this work at the next meeting of the Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions;

2. *Welcomes* the development of the various non-electronic mechanisms, tools, products, to raise awareness amongst indigenous and local communities and throughout the general public about the Convention and relevant issues, including the role of traditional knowledge in attaining the goals of the Convention and encourages their promotion during and after the International Year of Biodiversity, at various high profile events;

3. *Decides* to increase the core budget for the translation of documents, into the six official languages of the United Nations, so as to include the notifications and other information resources for indigenous and local communities, as appropriate; ^{12/}

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue to develop both electronic and traditional and diverse means of community-education and public-awareness materials, and to ensure such materials are well publicized through high-profile events in collaboration with Parties, international organizations, indigenous and local communities, and other stakeholders.

C. *Participation of indigenous and local communities in the work of the Convention including through the Voluntary Fund for Facilitating the Participation of Indigenous and Local Communities in the Convention Process*

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing efforts by the Secretariat to promote the Voluntary Fund for Facilitating the Participation of Indigenous and Local Communities in the Convention Process (VB Trust Fund), and *requests* the Executive Secretary to continue his efforts and to report on the advancement of this work, along with the relevant statistics concerning the participation of indigenous and local community, including through the national reports, at the next meeting of the Working Group;

2. *Invites* Parties, Governments and relevant funding institutions and mechanisms to contribute generously to the Voluntary Fund

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue to develop, update and translate the various electronic communication mechanisms, including the Article 8(j) homepage and the Traditional Knowledge Information Portal and to report on progress to the next meeting of the Working Group;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue to monitor the use of the Convention website and in particular, the Article 8(j) homepage and the Traditional Knowledge Information Portal, and to consult with indigenous and local communities that are participating in the work of the Convention, through the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity, and the Indigenous Women's

^{12/} This paragraph would have budgetary implications.

Biodiversity Network, to identify any gaps or shortcomings and to report to the next meeting of the Working Group.

D. Other initiatives

The Conference of the Parties

Welcomes with appreciation creative initiatives and partnerships between stakeholders in pursuit of the goals of the Convention and in particular the Indigenous and Local Communities, Business and Biodiversity Consultation held at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 12-13 May 2009 and *requests* the Executive Secretary to continue such efforts and to continue to report of progress made at the next meeting of the Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions.
