



CBD

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

22 May 2007
International Day for Biological Diversity



Biodiversity and Climate Change

Ref.: SCBD/SEL/OJ/lb/61327

17 December 2007

NOTIFICATION

Ninth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP-9), 19-30 May 2008, Bonn, Germany

Dear Madam/Sir,

I refer to Notification 2007-124 of 23 October 2007 concerning the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, which will be held at the Maritim Hotel Bonn, in Bonn, Germany, from 19 to 30 May 2008.

I am pleased to attach herewith the annotations to the provisional agenda (document UNEP/CBD/COP/9/1/Add.1), as approved by the Bureau. Kindly note that this document is available on the Secretariat website. Furthermore, the "Information Note for Participants" providing more detailed information regarding the logistical arrangements for participants in the meeting is also available, as well as other pre-session and information documents at: <http://www.cbd.int/doc/meeting.aspx?mtg=COP-09>.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Ahmed Djoghlaif
Executive Secretary

To: All CBD National Focal Points

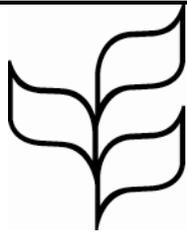


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Convention on Biological Diversity

Distr.
GENERAL

UNEP/CBD/COP/9/1/Add.1
19 November 2007

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Ninth meeting

Bonn, 19–30 May 2008

Item 1.4 of the provisional agenda*

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Annotations to the provisional agenda

INTRODUCTION

1. Following the invitation of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, which was welcomed by the Conference of the Parties in its decision VIII/33, the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties will be held at Maritim Hotel Bonn, in Bonn, Germany, from 19 to 30 May 2008.
2. At its meeting held in Montreal on 7 October 2007, the Bureau approved the draft provisional agenda of the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/1). The present annotations to the provisional agenda were prepared by the Executive Secretary and approved by the Bureau.
3. In accordance with paragraph 2 of decision V/20 and the guidance of the Bureau, the Executive Secretary organized the provisional agenda for the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties into the following main items: (1) organizational matters; (2) consideration of reports; (3) issues for in-depth consideration; (4) other substantive issues arising from decisions of the Conference of the Parties; (5) administrative and budgetary matters, and (6) final matters. Annex I provides a list of the documents for the meeting.
4. In accordance with rule 6 of the rules of procedure for meetings of the Conference of the Parties, the Secretariat has notified 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.
5. In accordance with rule 7 of the rules of procedure, the Secretariat has notified 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

* UNEP/CBD/COP/9/1.

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the meeting, so that they may be represented as observers. A list of such bodies will be made available to the Conference of the Parties for information.

6. The ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties will include a high-level ministerial segment organized by the host country in consultation with the Secretariat and the Bureau. The high-level segment will take place from 28 to 30 May 2008 at the World Conference Center Bonn and will be opened by the Federal Minister of the Environment of Germany. It is expected that, the German Chancellor, Ms. Angela Merkel, will address the High Level Segment together with other heads of state and the government. The President of the Federal Republic of Germany, Dr. Horst Köhler, will host a reception. Further details regarding the high-level ministerial segment will be available on the Secretariat website.

7. The ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties will also coincide with the International Biodiversity Day, on 22 May 2008. The Conference of the Parties will be invited to mark this important event. Taking advantage of the venue of the meeting in Bonn, the headquarters of the two other Rio conventions, an informal dialogue with the executive secretaries of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification will be held in the morning of the 27 May. It will be followed in the afternoon by an informal dialogue with Heads of agencies including the Executive Secretaries of the United Nations Regional Economic Commissions.

8. In accordance with established practice, the Executive Secretary will prepare a compilation of the various elements of draft decisions proposed by the inter-sessional meetings for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/1/Add.2).

9. Thanks to the generous financial support of the Government of Spain, the ninth meeting of the conference of the Parties will be preceded, on 17-18 May 2007, by the convening of the regional preparatory meetings for Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean.

10. Registration of participants will commence at the venue of the meeting at 9 a.m. on Friday, 16 May 2008. More information on the logistical arrangements for the meeting is provided in the document "Information for Participants" available on the website of the Secretariat.

I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

11. Item I of the provisional agenda comprises those sub-items that are procedural in nature. They relate to the organization, operation and protocol of the meeting.

ITEM 1.1 OPENING OF THE MEETING

12. The meeting will be opened at 10 a.m. on Monday, 19 May 2008 by the President of the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

13. It is expected that, at the opening session, the Conference will hear addresses of welcome by representatives of the Government of Germany and of local authorities.

14. The Executive Secretary will address the meeting and highlight the main issues before the Conference of the Parties.

ITEM 1.2 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Election of the President

15. It is expected that, at the opening session, the President of the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties will call for the election of a representative of the host country as President of the ninth meeting. The term of office of the President will begin immediately following his or her election at the ninth meeting and will end with the election of a successor at the tenth meeting.

Election of officers other than the President

16. In accordance with rule 21 of the rules of procedure (as amended by decision V/20), in addition to the President, ten Vice-Presidents, one of whom acts as Rapporteur, are to be elected from among the representatives of the Parties present at the meeting. The term of office of the Vice-Presidents will commence upon the closure of the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and end at the closure of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. It will be recalled that, at its eighth meeting, the Conference of the Parties elected nine Vice-Presidents from the following countries for a term that will end at the closure of the ninth meeting: Bahamas, Bhutan, Cameroon, Canada, Croatia, Nigeria, Spain, Ukraine, and Yemen. It will also be recalled that the Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC) was unable to reach agreement on the nomination of one of its two Bureau members. The representative of Chile, Mr. Fernando Perez Egert, was nominated at a later date. Thus, the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties will need to elect Mr. Perez Egert from Chile at its opening session. In order to avoid a similar situation in the future, the regional groups are urged to submit their nominations at the opening of the meeting. This will allow the newly elected members of the Bureau to attend, as observers, the Bureau meetings to be held during the current meeting of the Conference in order to ensure a smooth transition between outgoing and incoming Bureau members.

Election of officers of subsidiary bodies and other meetings

17. Rule 26 of the rules of procedure, provides that the chairperson of any subsidiary body shall be elected by the Conference of the Parties, while the election of other officers is the responsibility of the body itself. At this meeting, the Conference of the Parties will therefore need to elect the chair of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) for its fifteenth and sixteenth meetings. Previously elected chairs of SBSTTA have come from following regional groups: first meeting – Africa; second meeting – Western European and Others; third and fourth meetings – Asia and the Pacific; fifth and sixth meetings – Latin America and the Caribbean; seventh and eight meetings – the Central and Eastern European Group; ninth and tenth meetings – Africa; eleventh and twelfth meetings—Western European and Others; thirteenth and fourteenth meetings—Asia and the Pacific.

ITEM 1.3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

18. The provisional agenda (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/1) has been approved by the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties. It was prepared by the Executive Secretary in accordance with rule 8 of the rules of procedure for meetings of the Conference of the Parties, with the guidance of the Bureau, and taking into account the refined multi-year programme of work of the Conference of the Parties up to 2010 contained in annex II to decision VIII/10 on Operations of the Convention and other relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties.

ITEM 1.4. ORGANIZATION OF WORK

19. In accordance with established practice, the Conference of the Parties may wish to establish two working groups. A proposed timetable and division of responsibilities between the plenary and the two

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working groups is contained in annex II below. Should two working groups be established, the Conference of the Parties will need to elect a Chairperson for each working group.

20. The plenary may also establish a budget contact group to address agenda item 5 on the administration of the Convention and budget for the programme of work for the biennium 2009-2010.

21. Interpretation will be available for the Working Groups for morning and afternoon sessions only. It will not be available for evening sessions.

ITEM 1.5. REPORT ON THE CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

22. Rule 18 of the rules of procedure for meetings of the Conference of the Parties states that:

“The credentials of representatives and the names of alternate representatives and advisers shall be submitted to the Executive Secretary of the Conference of the Parties or the representative of the Executive Secretary not later than twenty four hours after the opening of the meeting. Any later change in the composition of the delegation shall also be submitted to the Executive Secretary or his representative. The credentials shall be issued by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or, in the case of a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization.”

23. Rule 19 provides that “the Bureau of any meeting shall examine the credentials and submit its report to the Conference of the Parties for decision”.

24. In order to assist Parties in fulfilling the requirements of rule 18, the Executive Secretary distributed to national focal points a sample format of appropriate credentials with the letter of invitation to the meeting (see notification 2007-124 of 23 October 2007).

25. The Conference of the Parties will be invited to consider and adopt the report on credentials submitted to it by the Bureau.

ITEM 1.6 PENDING ISSUES

26. At its first meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopted the rules of procedure for its meetings in decision I/1, with the exception of paragraph 1 of rule 40, relating to the taking of substantive decisions. The Conference of the Parties has considered this outstanding matter at its subsequent meetings but without resolving it conclusively. At the third meeting, consensus was reached concerning some, but not all, of the text in brackets.

27. By decision I/6, the Conference of the Parties adopted the financial rules for the administration of the Trust Fund for the Convention on Biological Diversity. Paragraphs 4 and 16 of these rules contain bracketed text. Paragraph 4 deals with scale of assessments for the apportionment of contributions by Parties to the Trust Fund. Paragraph 16 deals with adopting decisions regarding the Trust Fund. The paragraphs have been considered at subsequent meetings of the Conference of the Parties, but without any agreement. The text therefore remains bracketed.

28. Since it is not expected that this matter can be resolved at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, it is suggested that its consideration be postponed to a future meeting.

ITEM 1.7 DATE AND VENUE OF THE TENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

29. In accordance with paragraph 2 of rule 4 of its rules of procedure, the Conference of the Parties is to decide on the date and duration of its next ordinary meeting.

30. At its fifth meeting, the Conference decided to amend rule 4 of its rules of procedure so that ordinary meetings of the Conference of the Parties shall be held every two years. At its eighth meeting, the Conference of the Parties decided to maintain the current periodicity of its ordinary meetings until its tenth meeting, in 2010. Thus, the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties shall take place in 2010.

31. With respect to the venue of the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties, rule 3 of the rules of procedure provides that meetings of the Conference of the Parties shall take place at the seat of the Secretariat, unless the Conference of the Parties decides otherwise or other appropriate arrangements are made by the Secretariat in consultation with the Parties. In this connection, the Government of Japan has made known its intention to offer to host the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

32. Under this item, a decision regarding the date and venue of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties will be required.

33. Taking into account the need to identify early in advance the host of meetings of the Conference of the Parties, Parties will be encouraged to identify a possible host of their eleventh meeting and to agree on possible dates. It must be noted that the year 2012 will coincide with the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention and its opening of signature at the first Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992.

II. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

34. Item II of the provisional agenda provides for the presentation of the reports of the regional preparatory meetings for the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties; inter-sessional meetings of subsidiary bodies; report of the Global Environment Facility; and report of the Executive Secretary on the administration of the Convention and the budget for the Trust Fund of the Convention (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/10).

35. The Conference of the Parties is invited to take note of the reports, on the understanding that the substantive issues arising therein will be taken up under the appropriate agenda item, as indicated below. The recommendations contained in the reports will be reflected in the compilation of draft decisions (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/1/Add.2) prepared by the Executive Secretary.

ITEM 2.1 REPORTS OF INTER-SESSIONAL MEETINGS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES AND REGIONAL PREPARATORY MEETINGS

36. Under this item, the President will inform the Conference of the Parties of the meetings of subsidiary bodies held during the inter-sessional period and their reports on the understanding that the substantive issues arising therein will be taken up under the appropriate agenda item.

37. The regional groups may wish to report to the Conference of the Parties on the results of the preparatory meetings to be held immediately prior to the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

ITEM 2.2 REPORT OF THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

38. Pursuant to Article 21 of the Convention on Biological Diversity and paragraph 3.1 of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Conference of the Parties and the Council of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Conference of the Parties will have before it the report of GEF (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/9).

39. Under this item, the Conference of the Parties is invited to take note of the report and to consider the information contained therein when deciding upon the need for further guidance to the financial mechanism under item 4.16 and other items of relevance.

ITEM 2.3 REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE CONVENTION AND THE BUDGET FOR THE TRUST FUND OF THE CONVENTION, AND

ITEM 5 ADMINISTRATION OF THE CONVENTION AND BUDGET FOR THE PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE CONVENTION FOR THE BIENNIUM 2009-2010

40. The report of the Executive Secretary on the administration of the Convention and the budget for the trust funds of the Convention will be before the Conference of the Parties as document UNEP/CBD/COP/9/10.

41. Under this item, the Conference of the Parties is invited to take note of the report and to take up the information contained therein in its consideration of agenda item 5 on the budget for the programme of work for the biennium 2009-2010. Consistent with past practice, it is suggested that a budget contact group be established to prepare a budget, which will be submitted to plenary for adoption.

III ISSUES FOR IN-DEPTH CONSIDERATION

ITEM 3.1. AGRICULTURAL BIODIVERSITY

42. At its fifth meeting, the Conference of Parties endorsed the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity in 2000 (decision V/5, annex) as a contribution to the implementation of decision III/11 on the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity. In addition, the Conference of Parties has decided to establish three international initiatives:

(a) International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Pollinators (decision V/5, section II) and its associated Plan of Action (decision VI/5, annex II);

(b) International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity (decision VI/5, paragraph 13) and its framework for action (decision VIII/23 B); and

(c) A cross-cutting initiative on biodiversity for food and nutrition (decision VII/32, paragraph 7, and decision VIII/23 A, annex).

43. At its eighth meeting, in decision VIII/23, the Conference of the Parties decided that the process of the in-depth review of the work programme, to take place at its ninth meeting, shall take into account the guidelines for the review of programmes of work (decision VIII/15, annex III). The Conference of the Parties also requested the Executive Secretary, in partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and in consultation with other relevant international organizations, to

prepare the full review of the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting. The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) will consider the review of the work programme at its thirteenth meeting, in February 2008.

44. In its recommendation XII/7 (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/2), SBSTTA requested the Executive Secretary to compile additional relevant information on the impacts on biodiversity along the full life cycle of the production and use of biofuels, to identify options for consideration of this emerging issue in the programmes of work of the Convention, including the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity and the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity, and to synthesize and submit this information for consideration at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. In accordance with this request, the Conference of the Parties will have before it a note by the Executive Secretary on the impact of biofuels on biodiversity (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/26).

45. In addition, the representative of Switzerland will be invited to present a report on the first International Technical Conference on Animal Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, held in Interlaken, Switzerland, from 3 to 7 September 2007.

46. Under this item, the Conference of the Parties is invited to consider the relevant recommendation of SBSTTA at its thirteenth meeting (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/3) and the note by the Executive Secretary on biofuels (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/26). The recommendations in the in-depth review of the agricultural biodiversity programme of work include piloting the guidance on the integration of climate-change-impact and response activities as considered under agenda item 4.5, on biodiversity and climate change.

ITEM 3.2. GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR PLANT CONSERVATION

47. In decision VII/31, on its multi-year programme of work up to 2010, the Conference of the Parties decided that the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) should be an issue for in-depth consideration at its ninth meeting. In preparation, at its twelfth meeting, SBSTTA carried out a review of the GSPC and adopted recommendation XII/2. In paragraph 3 of that recommendation, SBSTTA requested the Executive Secretary to develop by the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, in collaboration with the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation, the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) and relevant organizations, and taking into account contributions from Parties, other Governments and relevant stakeholders, a "Plant Conservation Report" that could provide inputs to the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook and serve as a communication and awareness-raising tool on the implementation of the Strategy. It is expected that the Plant Conservation Report will be available at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

48. Under this item, the Conference of the Parties is expected to review the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation in light of SBSTTA recommendation XII/2 (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/2).

ITEM 3.3. INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES

49. In decision VIII/27, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to prepare an in-depth review of ongoing work on invasive alien species for consideration by the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and to consult with relevant international bodies and instruments on whether and how to address the lack of international standards covering invasive alien species, in particular animals, that are not pests of plants under the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), and to report on the results of these consultations for consideration by SBSTTA at its thirteenth meeting and by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting.

50. The Conference of the Parties may wish to consider the proposals in note by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/11) on the in-depth review of ongoing work, as well as the relevant recommendation of SBSTTA at its thirteenth meeting (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/3) on the outcomes of the consultation on the lack of international standards covering invasive alien species that are not pests under the IPPC.

ITEM 3.4. FOREST BIODIVERSITY

51. In decision VI/22, the Conference of the Parties adopted the expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity. The refined multi-year programme of work of the Conference of the Parties up to 2010, adopted by decisions VII/31 and VIII/10, provides for an in-depth review of the expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

52. An Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Work on Forest Biological Diversity was established through decision VI/22. The AHTEG has met four times since its establishment: in November 2003, March 2005, July 2005, and May 2007. The Executive Secretary, with support from the AHTEG, and following guidance provided in decision VIII/19, compiled a note on the in-depth review of the expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity and submitted it to SBSTTA at its thirteenth session (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/13/3). The final report from the fourth meeting of the AHTEG was incorporated into the background document for the in-depth review (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/13/INF/5).

53. The request of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to the Executive Secretary in its recommendation XII/7 (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/2) to the Executive Secretary with regard to the identification of options for consideration of the emerging issue of biofuels in the programmes of work of the Convention, including the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity and the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity, is addressed under item 3.1 (Agricultural biodiversity).

54. Under this item, the Conference of the Parties is invited to consider the relevant recommendation of SBSTTA at its thirteenth meeting (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/3).

ITEM 3.5 INCENTIVE MEASURES

55. In decision VIII/26, the Conference of the Parties decided to initiate a structured, transparent and inclusive preparatory process for the in-depth review of work on the incentive measures. To this end, the Conference of the Parties invited Parties, other Governments, international organizations and stakeholders to communicate to the Executive Secretary their experiences in the implementation of the programme of work on incentive measures contained in decisions V/15, VI/15 and VII/18, and to provide their views on, *inter alia*, lessons learned and key challenges in implementing the existing programme of work, options to address the challenges identified, and priorities for a future programme of work.

56. Under this item, the Conference of the Parties will have before it a note by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/12), which provides a summary of the experiences and views submitted to the Executive Secretary, including a summary of options provided. The full compilation of submissions is available as an information document (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/8). The Conference of the Parties will also have before it an updated synthesis report of information on incentive measures provided by Parties in the third national reports (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/12/Add.1). As requested by the Conference of the Parties in paragraph 10 (d) of decision VIII/25, on the application of tools for the valuation of biodiversity and biodiversity resources and functions, terms of reference for a study on how monitoring

can support the implementation of valuation tools and positive incentive measures will be before the meeting as an information document (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/9).

57. The Conference of the Parties may wish to consider the further outcomes that would be required from a revised programme of work to meet obligations under the Convention and the requirements of Parties, as well as possible options for a future programme of work.

ITEM 3.6. ECOSYSTEM APPROACH

58. In decision VII/11, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to assess the application of the ecosystem approach, in the light of experiences gained, for the consideration of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) prior to the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. In annex II to decision VIII/10, the Conference of the Parties decided to undertake the in-depth review of the application of the ecosystem approach at its ninth meeting. The application of the ecosystem approach was considered by SBSTTA at its twelfth meeting.

59. The Conference of the Parties is invited to consider SBSTTA recommendation XII/1, on the application of the ecosystem approach, annexed to the report of its twelfth meeting (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/2).

ITEM 3.7. PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN AND PROGRESS TOWARDS THE 2010 TARGET AND RELEVANT MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Review of implementation of goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan

60. In decision VIII/8, the Conference of the Parties decided to conduct an in-depth review of the implementation of goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan and requested the Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention to prepare for the in-depth review of the implementation of goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan by the Conference of the Parties, focusing in particular on: (i) the provision of financial resources, capacity-building, access to and transfer of technology and technology cooperation; and (ii) the status of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, their implementation and updating, and the extent to which biodiversity concerns are effectively integrated into relevant sectors and have been effectively mainstreamed in accordance with Article 6 (b) of the Convention.

61. The annex to recommendation 2/1 (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/4) of the second meeting of the Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention contains a draft decision for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties, which notes the status of implementation of goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan and includes consolidated guidance for Parties in developing, implementing and revising their national and, where appropriate, regional, biodiversity strategies and action plans, and equivalent instruments, as well as consolidated guidance on priority areas for capacity-building and access to and transfer of technology.

62. The Conference of the Parties is invited to consider the draft decision prepared by the Working Group and to take note of the relevant information contained in the note by the Executive Secretary on the subject (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/14), which contains a report on the state of progress in achieving the goals of the Strategic Plan and progress towards the achievement of the 2010 biodiversity target.

Revision of the Strategic Plan beyond 2010

63. In decision VIII/15, paragraph 2, the Conference of the Parties decided to consider at its ninth meeting the process for revising and updating the Strategic Plan with a view to adopting a revised

Strategic Plan at its tenth meeting. In its recommendation 2/1, the Working Group on the Review of Implementation requested the Executive Secretary to invite Parties to submit views on the revision of the Strategic Plan beyond 2010, and to prepare a report for the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, taking into account also the views expressed by Parties at the second meeting of the Working Group. This report is contained in document UNEP/CBD/COP/9/14/Add.1.

64. Under this item, the Conference of the Parties is invited to consider the proposals by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/14/Add.1) concerning the process for revising and updating the Strategic Plan.

Preparation of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook

65. At decision VIII/14, paragraph 18 (a), the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary develop proposals on the scope and format of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO-3) and the organization of preparatory work. In recommendation 2/4, the Working Group on the Review of Implementation requested the Executive Secretary to revise the proposed scope and format, work plan, communication strategy and financial plan for the development of GBO-3, taking into account views expressed at its second meeting including those summarized in the annex to the recommendation, as well as comments provided by national focal points, the Informal Advisory Committee for Communication, Education and Public Awareness and other relevant organizations and specialists. The revised plan is contained in a note by the Executive Secretary on the subject (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/15).

66. The Conference of the Parties is invited to take note of the proposals for the development of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/15).

ITEM 3.8 FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND THE FINANCIAL MECHANISM

In-depth review of the availability of financial resources, including through the financial mechanism

67. In decision VIII/13, the Conference of the Parties decided to conduct, at its ninth meeting, an in-depth review of the availability of financial resources, including through the financial mechanism. In paragraph 5 of the same decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary and invited the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to further collaborate on data collection and to provide regular reports on the status and trends of biodiversity finance to the Conference of the Parties.

68. The Conference of the Parties is invited to consider a note by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/16) on the in-depth review of the availability of financial resources. This is supported by an information document (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/5) on status and trends of biodiversity finance, based on the information generated from the biodiversity-related aid statistics of the OECD.

Draft strategy for resource mobilization to support implementation of the Convention

69. In decision VIII/13, paragraph 4, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, in consultation with Parties, Governments and relevant partners, to explore all options for resource mobilization including innovative financial mechanisms and to develop a draft strategy for resource mobilization, taking into account the elements of the in-depth review, and to present a report on these options and the draft strategy to its ninth meeting through the Ad Hoc Open Ended Working Group on Review of Implementation.

70. In its recommendation 2/2, the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation recommended the adoption of a strategy for resource mobilization to support

implementation, and requested the Executive Secretary in preparation for the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to (a) Seek views and further suggestions from Parties, other Governments, regional economic integration groups, partner organizations, donors and observers on a strategy for resource mobilization, and compile the information received;(b) Undertake informal consultations on the development of the strategy for resource mobilization in conjunction with the Convention's inter-sessional meetings;(c) Submit a draft strategy for consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting.

71. Following these consultations, the Executive Secretary prepared the draft strategy for resource mobilization (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/16/Add.1). The Conference of the Parties is invited to consider the draft strategy as well as recommendation 2/2 of the Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/4).

Message on biodiversity and financing for development to the International Conference on Financing for Development

72. In its recommendation 2/2, the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation highlighted the need for a full integration of biodiversity financing at the International Conference on Financing for Development, in Doha in the second half of 2008, and recommended that the Conference of the Parties mandate its President to transmit a message on biodiversity and financing for development to the International Conference on Financing for Development.

73. The Working Group requested the Executive Secretary to undertake informal consultations to prepare a draft message for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties. Following consultations, the Executive Secretary prepared the draft message (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/16/Add.2), which will be before the Conference of the Parties for its consideration.

74. The Conference of the Parties is invited to consider the draft message, and adopt a decision based on recommendation 2/2 of the Working Group on Review of Implementation (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/4).

Review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism

75. In decision VIII/13, paragraph 11, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to make the necessary arrangements for an evaluation of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism to be conducted in time for its ninth meeting. The evaluation was to be carried out according to the guidelines contained in the annex to decision VII/22 with the following adjustments:

(a) The review will cover all the activities of the financial mechanism for the period from July 2001-June 2007;

(b) The review should take account of any relevant sources of new information to those identified in paragraph 3 of the annex to decision VII/22;

(c) The criteria for effectiveness should also include actions taken in response to decision VII/20.

76. In response, the Executive Secretary contracted an experienced independent evaluator through an open and transparent international bidding process. In accordance with decision VII/22, the Executive Secretary has also prepared, in consultation with the Global Environment Facility, a draft decision on the third review of the financial mechanism, which is provided in the note by the Executive Secretary on the subject (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/17), together with the report of the independent evaluator.

77. The Conference of the Parties is invited to take a decision on the effectiveness of the financial mechanism based on the above-mentioned reports, as well as on the arrangements for the fourth review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism.

IV. OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES ARISING FROM DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES AND STRATEGIC ISSUES FOR EVALUATING PROGRESS

ITEM 4.1. ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING

78. The Open-ended Working Group on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit-sharing held its fifth meeting, in Montreal from 8 to 12 October 2007, and its sixth meeting will be held in Geneva, from 21 to 25 January 2008. The Working Group continued the elaboration and negotiation of the international regime on access and benefit-sharing, in accordance with decision VIII/4 A of the Conference of the Parties. The reports of the Working Group (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/5 and UNEP/CBD/COP/9/6) will be before the Conference of the Parties for its consideration.

79. The Conference of the Parties is invited to consider progress in the elaboration and negotiation of the international regime on the basis of the reports of the Working Group, and decide on future work to ensure the finalization of the international regime within the deadline set in decision VIII/4 A.

ITEM 4.2. ARTICLE 8 (j) AND RELATED PROVISIONS

80. In accordance with decision VIII/5, the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Article 8 (j) and related provisions held its fifth meeting, in Montreal from 15 to 19 October 2008. The Working Group reviewed progress in the priority tasks of the work programme and their integration into the thematic programmes; considered the second phase of the composite report on status and trends regarding traditional knowledge relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, as well as sections B and D of the plan of action for the retention of traditional knowledge. The Working Group also considered its contribution to the negotiation of an international regime on access and benefit sharing; mechanisms to promote the effective participation of indigenous and local communities in matters related to the objectives of Article 8(j) and related provisions; *sui generis* systems for the protection of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices; a code of ethical conduct to ensure respect for the cultural and intellectual heritage of indigenous and local communities; indicators for assessing progress towards the 2010 biodiversity target; and the recommendations of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII).

81. Under this item, the Conference of the Parties is invited to consider the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Inter-Sessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/7).

ITEM 4.3. TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND COOPERATION

82. In decision VIII/12, the Conference of the Parties decided to establish an Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Technology Transfer and Scientific and Technological Cooperation with a view to collect, analyse and identify ongoing tools, mechanisms, systems and initiatives to promote the implementation of Articles 16 to 19, and to propose strategies for practical implementation of the programme of work on technology transfer and scientific and technical cooperation, which was adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting (decision VII/29 Annex).

83. The draft strategy is provided in the note by the Executive Secretary on technology transfer and cooperation (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/18), and the full report of the meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group is provided as an information document (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/1). As requested in paragraph 15 of decision VIII/12, a further note by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/18/Add.1) explores possibilities of developing a “Biodiversity Technology Initiative”, following the model of the Climate Technology Initiative (CTI). The final draft of a technical study that explores and analyses the role of intellectual property rights in technology transfer in the context of the Convention, requested in paragraph 13 of decision VIII/12, will be circulated as an information document (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/7).

84. The Conference of the Parties is invited to consider the draft strategy prepared by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/18).

ITEM 4.4 MONITORING, ASSESSMENTS AND INDICATORS

Monitoring progress towards the 2010 target and use of indicators

85. In decision VIII/15, the Conference of the Parties considered the framework for and integration of targets into the thematic programmes of work. Matters arising that relate to monitoring implementation of the Strategic Plan and to the preparation of the third edition of Global Biodiversity Outlook will be considered under agenda item 3.7 (Progress in the implementation of the Strategic Plan and progress towards the 2010 target and relevant Millennium Development Goals).

86. In decision VIII/2, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to provide guidance on strengthening the assessment of the 2010 target and to provide proposals for land use options that promote biodiversity and generate income for indigenous and local communities. This was considered by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, and the resulting recommendation XII/6 (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/2) will be considered under agenda item 4.6 (Biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands).

Follow up to the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment

87. In its decision VIII/9, the Conference of the Parties decided to consider, at its ninth meeting, the evaluation of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment to be undertaken during 2007, and the need for another integrated assessment of biodiversity and ecosystems, taking into account the future plans of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, as well as the outcomes of the current and future processes of the Global Environment Outlook of the United Nations Environment Programme, and scientific assessments that may be undertaken by the SBSTTA.

88. At its twelfth meeting, SBSTTA considered available evaluations of the impacts of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment and, in recommendation XII/3, requested the Executive Secretary to collect from Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations information required to undertake a

detailed assessment of the use and impact of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment from the point of view of stakeholders, including national decision makers.

89. Based on submissions received, the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with relevant organizations, has prepared a note on the subject (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/13) for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties.

ITEM 4.5. BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

90. In decision VIII/30, the Conference of the Parties requested the Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions to propose options for enhanced cooperation among the three Rio conventions, including the identification of mutually supportive activities to be conducted by the secretariats of the Rio conventions, Parties and relevant organizations. In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties requested that SBSTTA present guidance on the further integration of climate-change impact and response activities into the programmes of work of the Convention.

91. In its decision VII/15, the Conference of the Parties requested SBSTTA to consider the findings of the global Assessment on Peatlands, Biodiversity and Climate Change. Following its consideration of the issue, SBSTTA requested the Executive Secretary to review opportunities for further action to support the conservation and sustainable use of the biodiversity of tropical forested peatlands as well as other wetlands, and to report on progress to the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

92. The Conference of the Parties is invited to consider SBSTTA recommendation XII/5 (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/2) and the relevant recommendations of SBSTTA at its thirteenth meeting (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/3) on, *inter alia*, options for mutually supportive activities for the secretariats of the Rio conventions, Parties and other organizations; and to review the guidance on the integration of climate change impact and response activities within the programmes of work based on the pilot guidance considered during the in-depth review of the work programmes on forest and agricultural biodiversity.

93. Finally the Conference of the Parties is expected to consider the report on progress on opportunities for further action to support the conservation and sustainable use of the biodiversity of tropical forested peatlands as well as other wetlands as contained in the progress report on crossing-cutting issues (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/20).

ITEM 4.6. BIODIVERSITY OF DRY AND SUB-HUMID LANDS

94. In decision VIII/2, the Conference of the Parties requested SBSTTA to present to its ninth meeting a progress report on the incorporation of climate-change-adaptation considerations into the programme of work on dry and sub-humid lands. In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties also requested the Executive Secretary to provide guidance on strengthening the assessment of the 2010 targets and to provide proposals for land use options that promote biodiversity and generate income for indigenous and local communities.

95. SBSTTA further requested the Executive Secretary to undertake the following activities and to report to the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties on progress achieved: (i) in view of the lack of a common definition of dry and sub-humid lands, to clarify the areas under question with a view to harmonizing the delineation of dry and sub-humid lands; (ii) to strengthen collaboration on assessment of status, trends and threats to biodiversity in dry and sub-humid lands; and (iii) to liaise with relevant partners on activities necessary to fill gaps in information and data related to establishing baselines prior to the assessment of the achievement towards the 2010 target.

96. The Conference is invited to consider SBSTTA recommendation XII/6 (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/2, annex), *inter alia*, on the adoption of land-use options to promote income generation and biodiversity conservation, and capacity-building support including case-studies, tool-kits and needs assessments, as well as the report on progress towards: (i) the integration of climate change activities within the programme of work; (ii) harmonizing the delineation of dry and sub-humid lands; (iii) strengthened collaboration on assessments on status and trends; and (iv) filling information and data gaps relating to baselines as contained in the progress report on thematic programmes of work (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/19).

ITEM 4.7. PROTECTED AREAS

97. In decision VIII/24, paragraph 15, the Conference of the Parties decided to convene the second meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Protected Areas to evaluate progress and elaborate recommendations for improved implementation of the work programme on protected areas.

98. The second meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Protected Areas will be held at the headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in Rome from 11 to 15 February 2008. The Working Group will review the implementation of the programme of work including assessment of progress made and obstacles encountered during the implementation and ways and means to overcome them; review a progress report on refinement and consolidation of scientific criteria for the identification of marine areas in need of protection and on compilation of biogeographical and other ecological classification system; and explore options for mobilizing, as a matter of urgency, through different mechanisms adequate and timely financial resources for the implementation of the programme of work.

99. The Conference of the Parties is invited to consider the recommendations of the second meeting of the Working Group as contained in its report (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/8).

ITEM 4.8. BIODIVERSITY OF INLAND WATERS

100. In paragraph 29 of its decision VII/4, the Conference of the Parties invited the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention and the Scientific and Technical Review Panel of the Ramsar Convention, in collaboration with the Executive Secretary and SBSTTA, with a view to achieving a more comprehensive coverage of components of biological diversity through the designation of Ramsar sites, to further elaborate the guidelines on existing criteria for various features, consider the development of additional criteria and to develop guidelines on the geographical scale at which criteria should be applied.

101. In decision VIII/20, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to review the technical requirements under the programme of work on the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems and compare them with the ongoing and planned activities of the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) of the Ramsar Convention in order to identify inconsistencies and propose ways and means to address them to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice. The Conference of the Parties also requested the Executive Secretary to invite the Ramsar Convention to take the lead in developing a draft national reporting framework on the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems. In activity 1.1.10 (a) of the programme of work (decision VII/4, annex), the Conference of the Parties requested SBSTTA to review existing information on the allocation and management of water for maintaining ecological functions, including the relevant guidelines and technical papers on this topic, and prepare advice for the Conference of the Parties. A new joint work plan (2007-2010) for the Convention and the Ramsar Convention has also been developed by the two secretariats. These matters will be considered at the thirteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.

102. The Conference of the Parties is invited to consider the relevant recommendation of SBSTTA as contained in the report of its thirteenth meeting (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/3).

ITEM 4.9. MARINE AND COASTAL BIODIVERSITY

Options for preventing and mitigating the impacts of some activities to selected seabed habitats, and ecological criteria and biogeographic classification systems for marine areas in need of protection

103. In decisions VIII/21 and VIII/24, the Conference of Parties requested the Executive Secretary: (i) in collaboration with the United Nations Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (UNDOALOS) to further analyse and explore options for preventing and mitigating the impacts of some activities to selected seabed habitats; and (ii) to organize an Expert Workshop on Ecological Criteria and Bio-geographic Classification Systems for Marine Areas in Need of Protection, and to report the findings to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (see document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/13/4).

104. The Conference of the Parties is invited to consider the relevant recommendations of SBSTTA as contained in the report of its thirteenth meeting (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/3) as they relate to options for preventing and mitigating the impacts of some activities to selected seabed habitats, and ecological criteria and biogeographic classification systems for marine areas in need of protection beyond the limits of national jurisdiction.

ITEM 4.10. ISLAND BIODIVERSITY

105. In decision VIII/1, the Conference of the Parties adopted a work programme on island biodiversity. In his progress report on the thematic programmes of work (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/19), the Executive Secretary reports on the achievements of Parties and their partners in implementing the work programme, and on the main issues raised in several events related to islands. A meeting to discuss the next steps will be convened in Rome on the margins of the second meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Protected Areas, in February 2007. Its recommendations will be submitted to the Conference of the Parties.

106. The Conference of the Parties is invited to take note of the report of the preparatory meeting (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/6) and consider the proposals in the note by the Executive Secretary on thematic programmes of work (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/19).

ITEM 4.11. GLOBAL TAXONOMY INITIATIVE

107. In decision VIII/3, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to develop, in consultation with the Coordination Mechanism of the Global Taxonomy Initiative, other relevant consultative bodies, stakeholders and organizations, for each of the planned activities of the programme of work on the Global Taxonomy Initiative, specific taxonomic, outcome oriented deliverables and a timeline for possible consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting. The Conference of the Parties further requested the Executive Secretary to report to its ninth meeting on progress made towards the 2010 target of "A widely accessible checklist of known species, as a step towards a global register of plants, animals, micro-organisms and other organisms" and on options to ensure the long-term sustainability of the necessary financial support through the establishment of a special fund for the Global Taxonomy Initiative.

108. The Conference of the Parties may wish to consider this issue on the basis of the note by the Executive Secretary on matters arising from decision VIII/3, including the development of outcome-oriented deliverables (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/20/Add.2).

ITEM 4.12. LIABILITY AND REDRESS

109. In its decision VIII/29, the Conference of the Parties welcomed the report of the Group of Legal and Technical Experts on Liability and Redress in the Context of Paragraph 2 of Article 14 of the Convention (UNEP/CBD/COP/8/27/Add.3) and inter alia requested the Executive Secretary to gather and compile technical information relating to damage to biological diversity and approaches to valuation and restoration of damage to biological diversity, as well as information on national/domestic measures and experiences, focusing in particular on the issues identified in the conclusions of the Group of Legal and Technical Experts and to prepare a synthesis report for examination by the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

110. The Conference of the Parties is invited to review the synthesis report prepared by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/20/Add.1) and decide on future work on this issue.

ITEM 4.13. COOPERATION WITH OTHER CONVENTIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND INITIATIVES, AND ENGAGEMENT OF STAKEHOLDERS

111. In decision VIII/17, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, where appropriate, to liaise with the conventions, organizations and initiatives with which the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity has already signed memoranda of cooperation with a view to advancing implementation of the Convention in line with the decisions of the Conference of the Parties, and also to cooperate with a number of other conventions, organizations and initiatives. Under this item, the Conference of the Parties will have before it a note by the Executive Secretary on the Secretariat's activities in this regard (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/21).

112. The Conference of Parties is invited to take note of the above-mentioned note by the Executive Secretary and provide guidance to the Secretariat as appropriate. In addition, cooperation with other conventions, international organizations and initiatives in relation to particular programmes of work and cross-cutting issues is considered under the appropriate agenda items.

Promoting business engagement

113. In decision VIII/17, the Conference of the Parties stressed the importance of engaging the business community in the implementation of the Convention, in particular, with regard to the engagement of business in the development and implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans; the participation of business in Convention meetings, including as part of national delegations; the alignment of business policies and practices with the objectives of the Convention and the 2010 target; and the prioritization of Article 6(b) of the Convention. The Executive Secretary was requested to compile information on the business case for biodiversity and good biodiversity practice, and to make this information available through the clearing-house mechanism; and to include business as a target audience for its outreach materials and in the Global Initiative on Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA).

114. In paragraph 8 of the same decision, the Conference of the Parties decided to consider, at its ninth meeting, further ways and means to promote business engagement in the implementation of the Convention, with a particular emphasis on the Convention's role in facilitating such engagement.

115. The Conference of the Parties is invited to consider a note by the Executive Secretary on this issue (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/21/Add.1), which provides an overview of actions taken by the Secretariat, Parties and organizations, as well as recommendations on future action.

Promoting engagement of cities and local authorities

116. Following an initiative of the Mayor of Curitiba, at the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the mayors and representatives of 24 cities, including Bonn, Curitiba, Montreal and Nagoya, adopted the Curitiba Declaration on Cities and Biodiversity, in Brazil, in March 2007. The Conference of the Parties will have before an information document on this subject (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/10), which provides a report on this initiative and contains proposals for strengthening the engagement of cities and local authorities in addressing the challenges of the 2010 biodiversity target. The Mayor's Conference on Local Action for Biodiversity, to be held in Bonn on 27-28 May 2008, as well as a meeting between delegates to the Conference of the Parties and mayors scheduled for the high-level segment of the meeting, are also expected to contribute to this item.

South-South cooperation

117. Following a request from Chairman of the Group of 77 referring to the outcome of 2005 World Review Summit and to the importance of South-South cooperation for achieving the Millennium Development Goals, including, in particular, goals 1 and 7, a brainstorming meeting of experts on South-South Cooperation was convened by the Secretariat from 6 to 8 November 2006. The brainstorming meeting developed a draft "framework for South-South cooperation on biodiversity", which is annexed to the report of the meeting. The full report is available as an information document (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/11). The initiative was welcomed by the forty-first meeting of the Chairs/Coordinators of the Group of 77 held in Rome on 26-27 February 2007. It was also included in the Draft Development Platform of the South being developed by the President of the Group of 77. The Second South Summit of the Group of 77 addressed an invitation to the Chairman "to prepare a platform for the South to provide a framework of development options to support the participation and integration of developing countries into the global economy and the globalization process. The Conference of the Parties is invited to consider the proposals contained in the report of the brainstorming meeting UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/11.

Gender considerations

118. As a continuing response to global commitments and recommendations of international forums, and in compliance with internal mandates within the United Nations system calling for gender equality and equity, the Secretariat has engaged in the development of a Gender Plan of Action, which defines the role it will play in stimulating and facilitating efforts, both in-house and with partners at the national, regional and global levels, to overcome constraints and take advantage of opportunities to promote gender equality and equity in the Convention process. The Gender Plan of Action will be before the Conference of the Parties for its information (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/12).

ITEM 4.14. OPERATIONS OF THE CONVENTION

Periodicity of meetings and organization of work of the Conference of the Parties

119. In section I of its decision VIII/10, the Conference of the Parties decided to maintain the periodicity of its ordinary meetings until 2010, while deciding to consider, at its ninth meeting, the meeting schedule of the Convention after the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in 2010. The Conference of the Parties also requested the Executive Secretary, in consultation with its Bureau, to prepare options for the meeting schedule, including the financial implications of each option, taking into

account, *inter alia*, the periodicity of ordinary meetings of the Conference of the Parties and the periodicity and scheduling of meetings of its subsidiary bodies, and to make available a report on those options to Parties, Governments and relevant organizations for their review and comments at least six months prior to its ninth meeting. The Executive Secretary prepared a report on the options and revised it with comments received.

120. The Conference of the Parties is invited to consider the revised report of the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/22/Add.1) and decide on the future periodicity of its meetings.

121. Under this item, the Conference of the Parties will also have before it a tentative schedule of meetings to be held under the Convention for the period 2009-2012 (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/22/Add.2).

Review and revision of the administrative arrangements between the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Secretariat of the Convention

122. In section I of its decision VIII/10, the Conference of the Parties took note of the ongoing review and revision of the administrative arrangements between UNEP and the Secretariat. It invited the UNEP Executive Director and the Executive Secretary to finalize the revision of the administrative arrangements for consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting.

123. Under this item the Conference of the Parties is invited to take note of the Executive Secretary's report (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/22) on the progress made to date.

Consolidated modus operandi of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice

124. In decision VIII/10, the Conference of the Parties adopted a consolidated *modus operandi* of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA), which lists among the specific functions that SBSTTA should identify new and emerging issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. At its twelfth meeting, through recommendation XII/8, SBSTTA requested the Executive Secretary to present to the Subsidiary Body at its thirteenth meeting options for the identification of emerging issues, the conditions for their inclusion in the agenda of relevant meetings, and appropriate ways to respond to new and emerging issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

125. The Executive Secretary prepared a note with options for a *modus operandi* for addressing new and emerging issues by SBSTTA (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/13/8). The Conference of the Parties is invited to consider the recommendation of SBSTTA at its thirteenth meeting (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/3) on this issue.

Retirement of decisions

126. In its decision VIII/10 V, the Conference of the Parties requested the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation to develop guidance for the future review and retirement of the decisions of the Conference of the Parties. It also requested the Executive Secretary to make proposals to its ninth meeting regarding the retirement of decisions and elements of decisions taken at its fifth meeting.

127. The Conference of the Parties is invited to consider adopting recommendation 2/5 A annexed to the report of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/4). The Conference of the Parties is also invited to review and adopt the Executive Secretary's proposals regarding the retirement of decisions and elements of decisions taken at its fifth meeting (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/22 and UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/2).

Admission of bodies and agencies to meetings under the Convention

128. In section VI of its decision VIII/10, the Conference of the Parties requested the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention to consider procedures for admission of bodies and agencies, whether governmental or non-governmental.

129. The Conference of the Parties is invited to review and consider adopting recommendation 2/5 B and its annex on steps for admitting qualified bodies and agencies, whether governmental or non-governmental, as observers to meetings of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/4, annex).

ITEM 4.15. SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND THE CLEARING-HOUSE MECHANISM

130. In decision VIII/11, the Conference of the Parties adopted the strategic plan of the clearing-house mechanism and its programme of work for the period 2005-2010, and requested the Executive Secretary to prepare a report on progress made for consideration at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. A number of activities have been undertaken accordingly, but full implementation of the strategic plan is constrained by the limited capacity and resources available at national and global levels, including the Secretariat. In this context, it is recommended to: (a) strengthen the capacity of both the Parties and the Secretariat to carry out the activities of the programme of work of the clearing-house mechanism; and (b) focus first on priority activities or services that can significantly contribute to the achievement of the 2010 biodiversity target. In addition, in accordance with decision V/23, paragraph 2, the Conference of the Parties is invited to review, at its ninth meeting, the continuation and mandate of the informal advisory committee to the clearing-house mechanism.

131. Under this item the Executive Secretary has prepared a note (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/23) in consultation with the informal advisory committee of the clearing-house mechanism. The Conference of the Parties is invited to consider the proposals in this document to address the above-mentioned issues and enhance the implementation of the strategic plan of the clearing-house mechanism.

ITEM 4.16. GUIDANCE TO THE FINANCIAL MECHANISM

132. In decision VIII/18, paragraph 6, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Parties, to explore opportunities for streamlining the guidance provided to the Global Environment Facility and to present the results through the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention.

133. Accordingly, the Executive Secretary prepared a note on the subject (UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/2/5) for the consideration of the Working Group. In its recommendation 2/3, the Working Group proposed that the Conference of the Parties adopt a four-year (2010-2014) framework for programme priorities related to utilization of GEF resources for biodiversity coinciding with the fifth replenishment of GEF. The Working Group further invited Parties and Governments, relevant organizations and GEF to submit their views on these matters, and requested the Executive Secretary to prepare elements of the framework and recommendations for consideration by the Conference of the Parties, and to organize a dialogue session among the Parties with participation of the Chief Executive Officer of GEF.

134. The Conference of the Parties is invited to adopt a decision on the guidance provided to the Global Environment Facility, in light of the following: (i) recommendation 2/3, paragraph 1, of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention; (ii) Elements for the four-year (2010-2014) framework for programme priorities related to utilization of GEF resources for

biodiversity, as well as recommendations to the process of formulating and consolidating guidance to the financial mechanism, as contained in the note by the Executive Secretary on the subject (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/24); (iii) results of the dialogue session among the Parties, with participation of the Chief Executive Officer of the GEF, in Bonn on 17 May 2008, on the four year (2010-2014) framework for programme priorities related to utilization of GEF resources for biodiversity, as well as the procedures for streamlining guidance to GEF; (iv) additional guidance that may be provided by the Conference of the Parties.

ITEM 4.17. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS (CEPA)

135. In decision VIII/6, the Conference of the Parties adopted the short list of priority activities for implementation of the programme of work on Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) and invited actors harmonize their efforts and contributions. The Conference of the Parties also requested the Executive Secretary to enhance CEPA activities and link these to other international initiatives where possible. Finally, following a request by the Conference of the Parties, the United Nations General Assembly declared 2010 the International Year of Biological Diversity (IYB).

136. The Conference of the Parties is invited to review the implementation of the programme of work as outlined in the note by the Executive Secretary on the subject (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/25) and to review the strategy for the celebration of the International Year (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/25/Add.1). The Conference of the Parties is invited to also take into account the Secretariat notes on the plans for the implementation of the short-list of priority activities (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/3) and the celebrations of the International Day for Biological Diversity for 2006 and 2007 (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/4).

V. ADMINISTRATION OF THE CONVENTION AND BUDGET FOR THE TRUST FUND OF THE CONVENTION FOR THE BIENNIUM 2009-2010

137. Under this item, the Conference of the Parties is invited to adopt a programme budget for the biennium 2009-2010 to meet the core administrative costs of the Conference of the Parties, SBSTTA, the meetings of other subsidiary bodies and the Secretariat.

138. The Conference of the Parties will have before it, for consideration and approval, a proposed budget for the BY, BE and BZ Trust Funds for the Convention (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/27). As in the past, the levels of contributions to the budget by individual Parties, which are annexed to the document, have been based on the United Nations scale of assessments for the apportionment of expenses. Detailed information on activities and resource needs by programme and subprogramme are explained in the note by the Executive Secretary on detailed sub-programme activities and resources required (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/13). In addition, the Conference of the Parties will also have before it a proposed Secretariat strategy in support of the enhanced implementation of the Convention and achievement of the 2010 target (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/27/Add.1).

139. The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety provides that, “[t]o the extent that they are distinct, the costs of the Secretariat services for the Protocol shall be met by the Parties hereto”. Therefore, there is a need to identify those Secretariat costs that are distinct to the Protocol and those that are common to the Convention and the Protocol. Given that the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol will immediately precede the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, the latter will be informed of the budget adopted for the Protocol for the next biennium as distinct costs.

140. In decision VIII/31, paragraph 21, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to develop, as an interim arrangement pending endorsement by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting, procedures for the allocation of funding from the Special Voluntary Trust Fund for Facilitation Participation of Parties in the Convention process, to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as Parties with economies in transition, to secure adequate representation from each region. A draft interim policy was developed by the Executive Secretary and approved by the Bureau at its meeting in Brasilia, on 5 December 2006. A revised interim policy was subsequently approved by the Bureau at its meeting in Montreal, on 14 October 2007. The interim policy will be submitted for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties in document UNEP/CBD/COP/9/27.

Annex I

**PROVISIONAL LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE NINTH MEETING OF
THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

A. Working documents

UNEP/CBD/COP/9/1	Provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/1/Add.1/	Annotations to the provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/1/Add.2	Draft decisions for the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/2	Report of the twelfth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/3	Report of the thirteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/4	Report of second meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on the Review of Implementation of the Convention
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/5	Report of the fifth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/6	Report of the sixth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/7	Report of the fifth meeting of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Inter-Sessional Working Group on the Implementation of Article 8(j) and Related Provisions
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/8	Report of the second meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Protected Areas
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/9	Report of the Global Environment Facility
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/10	Report of the Executive Secretary on the administration of the Convention and the budget for the Trust Fund of the Convention
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/11	Invasive alien species: in-depth review of ongoing work
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/12	Incentive measures: in-depth review of the programme of work on incentive measures - summary of experiences, views, and options provided to the Secretariat
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/12/Add.1	Incentive measures: synthesis report of information on incentive measures provided by Parties in the third national reports.
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/13	Follow-up to the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/14	Implementation of the Convention and its Strategic Plan
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/14/Add.1	Updating and revision of the Strategic Plan
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/15	Preparation of third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook

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UNEP/CBD/COP/9/16	In-depth review of the availability of financial resources
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/16/Add.1	Draft strategy for resource mobilization in support of the implementation of the Convention
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/16/Add.2	Draft message on biodiversity and financing for development to the International Conference on Financing for Development
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/17	Evaluation of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/18	Technology transfer and cooperation: draft strategy for the implementation of the programme of work
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/18/Add.1	Technology transfer and cooperation: exploration of possibilities of developing a “Biodiversity Technology Initiative”, taking into account the Climate Technology Initiative (CTI)
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/19	Thematic programmes of work: progress report and consideration of proposals for future action
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/20	Cross-cutting issues: progress report and consideration of proposals for future action
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/20/Add.1	Liability and redress: synthesis of information on damage, valuation and restoration
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/20/Add.2	Global Taxonomy Initiative: matters arising from decision VIII/3, including the development of outcome-oriented deliverables
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/21	Cooperation with other conventions and international organizations and initiatives and engagement of stakeholders
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/21/Add.1	Engagement of the private sector in support of the implementation of the Convention
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/22	Operations of the Convention
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/22/Add.1	Periodicity of meetings and organization of work of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/22/Add.2	Tentative meeting schedule of the Convention for the period 2009-2012
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/23	Scientific and technical cooperation and the clearing-house mechanism: Proposals for the implementation of the strategic plan of the clearing-house mechanism
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/24	Guidance to the financial mechanism: four year framework of programme priorities and ways and means to enhance the process for formulating and consolidating guidance
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/25	Report on the implementation of the programme of work on communication, education and public awareness
UNEP/CBD/COP/9/25/Add.1	Strategy for the celebration of the International Year of Biological Diversity in 2010

- UNEP/CBD/COP/9/26 Impact of biofuels on biodiversity: matters arising from SBSTTA recommendation XII/7
- UNEP/CBD/COP/9/27 Proposed budget for the programme of work of Convention and its Cartagena Protocol for the biennium 2009-2010
- UNEP/CBD/COP/9/27/Add.1 Proposed Secretariat strategy in support of the enhanced implementation of the Convention and achievement of the 2010 target

B. Information documents

- UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/1 Report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Technology Transfer and Scientific and Technological Cooperation
- UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/2 Proposals on the retirement of decisions taken by the Conference of the Parties at its fifth meeting
- UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/3 Communication, education and public awareness: Agenda for Action – short list of priority activities
- UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/4 Reports on the celebrations of the International Day for Biological Diversity in 2006 and 2007
- UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/5 Status and trends of biodiversity finance
- UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/6 Island biodiversity: report of the meeting of the Global Islands Partnership
- UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/7 Draft of a technical study that explores and analyses the role of intellectual property rights in technology transfer
- UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/8 Incentive measures: compilation of experiences in the implementation of the programme of work
- UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/9 Terms of reference for a study on how monitoring can support the implementation of valuation tools and positive incentive measures
- UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/10 Engagement of cities and local authorities in support of the implementation of the Convention
- UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/11 Report of the brainstorming meeting on South-South cooperation on biodiversity
- UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/12 Gender plan of action of the Convention on Biological Diversity
- UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/13 Addendum to the proposed budget of the programme of work: programme activities and resources required

Annex II

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF WORK AT THE NINTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

	PLENARY	WORKING GROUP I	WORKING GROUP II
<i>Monday 19 May 2008</i> 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	1.1 Opening of the meeting 1.2 Election of officers 1.3 Adoption of the agenda 1.4 Organization of work 1.5 Report on the credentials of representatives to the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. 1.6 Pending issues 2.1 Reports of inter-sessional and regional preparatory meetings 2.2 Report of the Global Environment Facility 2.3 Report of the Executive Secretary on the administration of the Convention and the budget for the Trust Fund of the Convention 5. Administration of the Convention and budget for the programme of work of the Convention for the biennium 2009-2010		
3 p.m. - 6 p.m.		3.1 Agricultural biological diversity 3.2. Global Strategy for Plant Conservation	3.7 Progress in the implementation of the Strategic Plan and towards the 2010 target and relevant Millennium Development Goals
<i>Tuesday, 20 May 2008</i> 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.		3.3. Alien invasive species	4.15. Scientific and technical cooperation and the clearing-house mechanism 4.3. Technology transfer and cooperation
3 p.m. - 6 p.m.		3.4 Forest biodiversity 3.6. Ecosystem approach	3.8. Financial resources and the financial mechanism

	PLENARY	WORKING GROUP I	WORKING GROUP II
<i>Wednesday, 21 May 2008</i> 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.		3.5. Incentive measures	3.8. Financial resources and the financial mechanism 4.16. Guidance to the financial mechanism
3 p.m. - 6 p.m.		4.8. Biodiversity of inland waters 4.9. Marine and coastal areas	4.2. Article 8 (j) and related provisions
<i>Thursday, 22 May 2008</i> 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.		4.7. Protected areas	4.1. Access and benefit-sharing
3 p.m. - 5 p.m.		4.4. Monitoring, assessment and indicators	4.1. Access and benefit-sharing (<i>continued</i>)
5 p.m.	Celebrations of the International Day for Biological Diversity (informal)		
<i>Friday, 23 May 2008</i> 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.		4.6. Biodiversity and dry and sub-humid lands 4.5. Biodiversity and climate change	4.13. Cooperation with other conventions, international organizations and initiatives and engagement of stakeholders
3 p.m. - 5 p.m.		4.5. Biodiversity and climate change (<i>continued</i>) 4.10. Island biodiversity	4.14. Operations of the Convention 4.17. Communication, education and public awareness
5 p.m. - 6 p.m.	Review of progress		
<i>Monday, 26 May 2008</i> 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.		4.11. Global Taxonomy Initiative	4.12. Liability and redress
3 p.m. - 6 p.m.		(<i>Matters outstanding</i>)	(<i>Matters outstanding</i>)
<i>Tuesday, 27 May 2008</i> 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	Informal dialogue with the executive secretaries of the Rio conventions and of the United Nations regional economic commissions followed by informal dialogue with the executive secretaries of the Biodiversity Liaison Group	<i>As plenary will be in session, only one working group will meet, to discuss matters outstanding</i>	
3 p.m. - 6 p.m.	Informal dialogue with heads of agencies	<i>As plenary will be in session, only one working group will meet, to discuss matters outstanding</i>	

	PLENARY	WORKING GROUP I	WORKING GROUP II
<i>Wednesday, 28 May 2008</i> 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Opening of the High-Level Segment of the Conference of the Parties	<i>As plenary will be in session, only one working group will meet, to discuss matters outstanding</i>	
3 p.m. - 6 p.m.		<i>(Matters outstanding)</i>	<i>(Matters outstanding)</i>
<i>Thursday, 29 May 2008</i> 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.		<i>(Approval of report)</i>	<i>(Approval of report)</i>
3 p.m. - 6 p.m.			
<i>Friday, 30 May 2008</i> 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	6.2 . Adoption of decisions of the Conference of the Parties and of the reports of the Working Groups 1.7 Date and venue of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties 6.1 Other matters 6.2 Adoption of the report 6.3 Closure of the meeting		
3 p.m. - 6 p.m.	<i>(Continued as needed)</i>		
