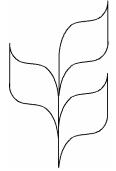




CBD



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QUARTERLY REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (January - March 2004)

Note by the Executive Secretary

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. This report is prepared in keeping with decision III/24 of the Conference of the Parties which requested the Executive Secretary to prepare a quarterly report on the administration of the Convention including such matters as the staff lists, status of contributions, progress on the implementation of the medium term work programme and financial expenditures. The requirements to report on a regular basis to the Parties were further elaborated under the Administrative Arrangements between the Secretariat and UNEP, which were endorsed by the Conference of the Parties in decision IV/17.
2. The Executive Secretary has prepared this Quarterly Report, which contains a summary of key activities implementing the decisions of the Conference of the Parties and other relevant matters during the period 1 January to 31 March 2004.

II. EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND MANAGEMENT

3. The seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP-7) took place in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 9-20 February 2004. The meeting was very well attended with some 2,300 participants representing 161 countries as well as UN agencies, non-governmental organizations, indigenous and local communities, academia and industry. COP-7 adopted 36 decisions including new programmes of work on technology transfer, protected areas and mountain biodiversity, revised programmes of work on inland water ecosystems and marine and coastal biodiversity, the Addis Ababa Guidelines on Biodiversity and Sustainable Use and the Akwé: Kon Voluntary Guidelines. COP-7 also saw agreement on a process for the negotiation of an international regime on access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits from their use. Moreover, a multi-year programme of work that will put greater focus on implementation and, in particular, achieving the target of a significant reduction in the rate of biodiversity loss by the 2010 was agreed; a framework for evaluation of progress towards this target was put in place. A Ministerial Segment was convened from 18-19 February and adopted the Kuala Lumpur Ministerial Declaration. Meetings of the Informal Advisory Committee of the Clearing-House Mechanism of the CBD were held on the margins of COP-7, on 13 and 17 February 2004. Additionally, the third meeting of the Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI) Coordination Mechanism was also organized on the margins of COP-7. The Executive Secretary also held meetings with the heads of many delegations and organizations during the session.
4. Subsequent to COP-7, the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP/MOP-1) was held from 23-27 February 2004, also in Kuala Lumpur. Over 850 participants attended the meeting. Delegates to MOP-1 adopted 14 decisions and made considerable progress in addressing a number of key issues that are fundamental to the operation of the Protocol, namely the handling, transport, packaging and identification provisions of Article 18, compliance and liability. A three-day Biosafety Clearing-House Training Workshop (24-26 February 2004) took place on the margins of MOP-1.
5. The Secretariat co-organized several side events on the margins of COP-7 in respect of germane topics including on: achieving and monitoring progress towards the 2010 biodiversity target, business and biodiversity, the global partnership for plant conservation, biodiversity and climate change, inter-linkages among the multilateral environmental agreements, and on practicing synergies among the Rio conventions. The CBD was also represented at the Global Biodiversity Forum which preceded COP-7 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The Secretariat also participated in several side events and prepared brief reports on these events, which were accessible on the Secretariat's web site.
6. During the first quarter of 2004, eleven countries acceded/ratified the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, bringing the total number of Parties to 90. The new Parties are: Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belize, Estonia, Grenada, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Paraguay, Tajikistan and Viet Nam.

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7. In preparation for COP-7, the Secretariat participated in the third Pan-European Intergovernmental Conference “Biodiversity in Europe” (18-22 January 2004, Madrid, Spain). The Secretariat also attended the regional preparatory meeting for COP-7 for Latin America and the Caribbean region (22-23 January 2004, Buenos Aires, Argentina). Additionally, regional preparatory meetings for COP-7 for the Asia and the Pacific region, as well as for the African region, were held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on 8 February 2004.

8. The fifth meeting of the Joint Liaison Group of the CBD, UNFCCC and UNCCD was held in Bonn, Germany, on 30 January 2004. The JLG identified three issues as priorities for joint collaboration: adaptation, capacity building and technology transfer. Discussions focused mainly on the status of ongoing collaborative activities, primarily on information sharing including the development of a portal for accessing national communications and reports, implementation (at the national level), opportunities for synergies in measures to adapt to climate change as well as for mutual learning in technology transfer and cooperation. The meeting also discussed the preparation for the joint workshop on Forests and Forest Ecosystems: Promoting Synergy in the Implementation of the three Rio Conventions, which is scheduled to be held from 5-7 April 2004 in Viterbo, Italy. The meeting also agreed that a joint paper on options for enhanced collaboration between the three Rio conventions would be prepared and made available to the respective COPs and SBSTTA bodies of each convention. The JLG also invited the CEO of the GEF to join them for an informal meeting on 31 January 2004 to discuss matters of common interest.

9. The Secretariat participated in the tenth meeting of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements which was held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 8-9 March 2004.

10. The Secretariat continued its close collaboration with the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA), whereby it co-sponsored a workshop for national focal points and other participants on the margins of COP-7 in Kuala Lumpur. Moreover, the Secretariat actively participated in the MA Board Meeting which took place in Nairobi, Kenya, from 10-11 March 2004.

11. In response to COP decision VII/31 on the Multi-year Programme of Work of the Conference of the Parties up to 2010, and in preparation for the meeting of the *Ad hoc* Technical Expert Group on Island Biodiversity envisaged for mid 2004, the CBD Secretariat launched an electronic forum on island biodiversity to allow input of the widest possible range from Parties, relevant organizations and other major stakeholders.

12. Moreover, discussion forums have been activated on the Biosafety Clearing-house in an effort to facilitate sharing of views and expertise on germane issues and in particular to assist BCH users; registration and participation in the forums are freely available to all users, including governmental and non-governmental organizations, policy makers and the general public.

13. The Secretariat participated actively in the twenty-eighth General Assembly of the International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS) and the International Conference “Biological Sciences, Development and Society” (18-23 January 2004, Cairo, Egypt) where together with UNESCO and IUBS it jointly organized a workshop on biodiversity education and public awareness.

14. The CBD Secretariat was also represented in the Intergovernmental Consultation on Strengthening the Scientific Base of UNEP (14-15 January 2004, Nairobi, Kenya), which was followed by an Informal Interagency meeting on the same (16 January), as well as in the Eighth Special Session of the UNEP Governing Council/ Fifth Global Ministerial Environment Forum (29-31 March 2004, Jeju Island, Republic of South Korea).

15. The Secretariat hosted and participated in a meeting of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) Task Force on Streamlining Forest-related reporting which was convened in Montreal from 29-30 March 2004.

16. A Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) was signed between the FAO and the CBD on cooperation between the CBD and the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Secretariats. The purpose of this MoC is to promote cooperation in relevant aspects of the activities conducted in the framework of the CBD and its Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the IPPC, with a view to promoting synergy, avoiding overlaps and unnecessary duplication, and ensuring effective cooperation in joint activities.

17. A Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) seeking to establish a framework for cooperation for the sharing of information relevant to implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety was also signed between the CBD Secretariat and the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB).

18. Furthermore, the Secretariats of the CBD, the World Heritage Centre of UNESCO and the GEF Small Grants Programme implemented by UNDP signed, on the margins of COP-7, a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) which aims to, *inter alia*, contribute to the achievement of the CBD 2010 target to reduce the current rate of biodiversity loss. Mr. Francesco Bandarin, Director of UNESCO's World Heritage Center (WHC) visited the Secretariat to discuss the implementation of the MoC.

19. During the first quarter of 2004, the CBD Secretariat participated in several international meetings including: a briefing on Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Biodiversity (15 January 2004, New York, USA); the third meeting of the Steering Committee of the UNEP-GEF Project on the Development of National Biosafety Frameworks (19 January 2004, Washington, D.C., USA); the sixth meeting of the Governing Board of the Global Invasive Species Programme, held in Cape Town, South Africa, from 22-27 January 2004 (CBD participated via teleconference on 26 January 2004); a meeting of National Coordinators of the UNEP-GEF Biosafety Implementation Project (26-29 January 2004, Geneva, Switzerland); the Inter-regional Preparatory Meeting to Review Implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of SIDS (26-30 January 2004, Nassau, the Bahamas); the International Workshop on Integrated Management and Rehabilitation of Peatlands (6-7 February 2004, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia) followed by the Steering Committee Meeting on UNEP-GEF Project on "Integrated Management of Peatlands for Biodiversity and Climate Change" (8 February 2004); the nineteenth session of the Global Biodiversity Forum (6-8 February 2004, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia); a workshop on the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (7 February 2004, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia); a High Level Dialogue on Trade, Biotechnology and Sustainable Development (21 February 2004, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia); an International Biosafety Seminar (22 February 2004, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia); the International Forum on Biotechnology (2-5 March 2004, Concepcion, Chile); the Workshop on Administrative and Legal Regimes on National Biosafety Frameworks (NBFs) organized for Anglophone Africa by the UNEP-GEF Project on the Development of NBFs (8-12 March 2004, Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanzania); the tenth meeting of the Secretariats of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (8-10 March 2004, Nairobi, Kenya); the third meeting of the Board of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (10-11 March 2004, Nairobi, Kenya); the symposium on "Maize and Biodiversity: the Effects of Transgenic Maize in Mexico" (11 March 2004, Oaxaca, Mexico); the sixth session of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore (15-19 March 2004, Geneva, Switzerland); a workshop on Adaptation to Climate Change, Sustainable Livelihoods and Biological Diversity (16-18 March 2004, Costa Rica); a meeting of a group of experts on the Global Marine Assessment (23-26 March 2004, New-York, USA); the UNEP Informal Advisory Group of Experts Meeting on Access and Benefit-Sharing of Genetic Resources (24-26 March 2004, Nairobi, Kenya); the sixth session of the Interim Commission on Phytosanitary Measures of the International Plant Protection Convention (29 March – 2 April 2004, Rome, Italy) and it was also represented at the twelfth meeting of the Scientific Council of the Convention on Migratory Species (31 March – 3 April 2004, Glasgow, Scotland).

20. Recruitment is underway to fill three vacant positions within the Secretariat. Classification of upgraded posts as well as the two newly established GS posts (as approved by COP-7) is ongoing in an effort to complete the recruitment process as soon as possible.

III. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

A. Personnel Arrangements

21. During this period, there were 33 Professional staff members regularized on posts funded from the core budget. There were 3 vacant posts, for which recruitment/selection is in progress. Additionally, 5 professional staff members are regularized on posts funded from other sources.

22. There were 25 General Service staff members regularized on posts funded by the core budget and one vacant post for which recruitment is in progress. Additionally, 5 staff members are regularized on posts funded from other sources.

23. For more information, please refer to the attached staff list and organigram (Annex I Appendix 1, and Annex II respectively).

B. Financial Arrangements

24. With regard to budgetary matters, as at 31 March 2004, of the total pledged contributions of US\$7,741,394 for 2004 to the General Trust Fund for the Convention on Biological Diversity (**BY Trust Fund**), the total contributions received amounted to US\$3,562,886. Total unpaid pledges to the BY Trust Fund for prior years amount to US\$908,811. Details of the BY Trust Fund are contained in Annex V.

25. Several Parties have contributed additional voluntary funds in support of approved activities under the Convention (**BE Trust Fund**). As of 31 March 2004, the total amount pledged for 2004 amounts to US\$590,454. The total collected for 2004 as at 31 March 2004 was US\$338,778. Total unpaid pledges for 2004 and prior years to the BE Trust Fund is US\$452,064. Details of the BE Trust Fund are contained in Annex III.

26. Pledges totalling US\$88,580 have so far been made as additional voluntary contributions to facilitate the participation of Parties to the Convention Process (**BZ Trust Fund**) in 2004, all of which has already been paid. Total unpaid pledges for prior years to the BZ Trust Fund amount to US\$148,493. Details of the BZ Trust Fund are contained in Annex IV.

27. During the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, which was held from 9-20 February 2004 it was decided to discontinue the Trust Fund to support Developing Countries on Biosafety Issues (**BF Trust Fund**) for the use of the roster of experts on Biosafety. The funds accumulated were re-assigned at the request of the Government of the United Kingdom (the only donor) for support of the Biosafety meeting of the ad hoc technical group of experts on liability and redress in the context of the Protocol.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL MATTERS

DECISION VI/2 AND VII/4: BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY OF INLAND WATER

28. In decision VI/2, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to (i) strengthen collaboration with the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands on the implementation of the River Basin Initiative and the third joint work plan, and (ii) implement paragraph 5 of Decision V/2 i.e., review the programme of work and include in its review advice on the further elaboration and refinement of the programme of work.

29. In response to this COP decision the following activities were carried out:

(a) Collaboration with the Ramsar Convention

30. The Secretariat held a meeting with the Executive Secretary of the Ramsar Convention in the margins of COP-7. It was agreed that relevant staff of the two Secretariats should meet to review the implications of COP-7 decisions on the CBD-Ramsar joint work programme. A meeting has been tentatively agreed for 30 April 2004 at the Secretariat's headquarters in Montreal. The Secretariats of the CBD and Ramsar Convention also jointly hosted two side events at COP-7: (i) Wetlands, Biodiversity and Climate Change, and (ii) Wetlands, Rivers and Water: the Developing Ramsar Convention.

31. The Secretariat held a meeting with the Global Environment Centre, in the margins of COP-7, regarding progress and status of the River Basin Initiative. The side event on the River Basin Initiative, jointly arranged by the Secretariats of the CBD and the Ramsar Convention and the Global Environment Centre, scheduled for COP-7 was incorporated into a broader side event on Riverine Biodiversity Conservation in Asia, chaired by the Secretariat.

(b) Review of the implementation of the programme of work

32. The Executive Secretary finalised reports to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the progress on the review, further elaboration and refinement of the programme of work and the implementation of the programme of work during the inter-sessional period (UNEP/CBD/COP/12 and UNEP/CBD/COP/7/12/Add.1). These were noted at COP-7 (decision VII/4).

(c) Revised programme of work

33. In response to the revised programme of work (decision VII/4), the Secretariat has drafted communications to relevant organisations, bodies and stakeholders advising them of sections of the decisions relevant to their work and requesting follow-up activities be initiated, as appropriate. The work programme has been considered by the Secretariat and a draft implementation schedule prepared. This lists the relevant activities required from the Executive Secretary, SBSTTA and Parties and provides a time frame for their completion.

(d) Other collaborative activities

34. The Secretariat attended the International Workshop on Integrated Management and Rehabilitation of Peatlands from 6-7 February 2004, prior to COP and *inter alia*, pointed to the linkages between peatlands and the programmes of work on the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems and on climate change. Note was also made of the opportunity to use peatlands in the context of targets and indicators. The Secretariat assisted with the organisation and chaired several of the following side events at COP-7: (i) Wetlands, Biodiversity and Climate Change; (ii) Revitalising the Ecosystems Approach;

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Lessons from Fisheries to Forestry. (iii) New Tools for Conserving Inland Water Ecosystems; and (iv) Riverine Biodiversity Conservation in Asia.

DECISION VI/3 MARINE AND COASTAL BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

35. In decision VI/3, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to (i) continue facilitating the implementation of the specific work plan on coral bleaching and the work plan on physical degradation and destruction of coral reefs; (ii) continue developing the work plan on physical degradation and destruction of coral reefs; and (iii) strengthen collaboration with the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans. In recommendation VIII/3, SBSTTA requested that the programme of work on marine and coastal biodiversity should be further refined by *inter alia* considering the setting of clear targets for the implementation of activities, taking into account the plan of implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the Strategic Plan of the Convention.

36. In response to this COP decision and SBSTTA recommendation the following activities were carried out:

(a) Review and further elaboration of the programme of work

37. The seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP-7) conducted an in-depth review of the programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity, resulting in the adoption of decision VII/5. This decision contains, in its annex, the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity, which includes new material on marine and coastal protected areas, mariculture, high seas biodiversity, and coral bleaching. The relevant activities from the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development have also been incorporated into the programme of work.

38. During COP-7, the Secretariat co-organized and participated in a number of side events relating to marine and coastal biological diversity, including events on marine and coastal protected areas, high seas biodiversity and integrated marine and coastal area management. Meetings on future collaboration in implementation of the elaborated programme of work were also held on the margins of COP-7 with representatives of several international and regional organizations, including but not limited to, the IUCN Global Marine Programme, the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme, the World Fish Center, WWF International, the International Coral Reef Initiative, the International Coral Reef Action Network, and the International Collective in Support of Fish workers.

39. The Secretariat also produced three new technical reports on the topic of marine and coastal biological diversity, which were distributed at COP-7. The reports were as follows:

- CBD Technical Series 12: Solutions for sustainable mariculture: Avoiding adverse effects of mariculture on biological diversity
- CBD Technical Series 13: Technical advice on the establishment and management of marine and coastal protected areas
- CBD Technical Series 14: Integrated marine and coastal area management (IMCAM) approaches for implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity

(b) Integrated marine and coastal area management

40. The Secretariat finalized its collaboration with the Coastal Zone Management Centre of the Netherlands (RIKZ) in preparing guidance for improved incorporation of biodiversity objectives into integrated marine and coastal area management. This guidance was published in the CBD Technical Series and the results of the work were discussed at a side event at COP-7.

41. The Secretariat participated in the meeting of the Group of Experts on the Draft Document establishing a Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socio-Economic Aspects (GMA). The meeting took place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 23-26 March 2004. The Secretariat's mandate to participate in this process is based on decision VII/5, Annex, as well as United Nations General Assembly resolutions 57/141 and A/58/423, and the WSSD Plan of Implementation. The GMA aims to produce a regular and comprehensive assessment of the status of the world's marine environment. It will be composed of regional assessments, as well as a global scale assessment of those areas not included inside established regions. It is anticipated that this assessment, once operational, will meet many of the long-term information needs of the CBD in regards to marine and coastal biological diversity.

42. The Secretariat also continues to closely collaborate with the authors of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA), and has provided review comments of both the marine and coastal chapters of the MA.

(c) Marine and coastal living resources

43. The Secretariat collaborated with the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) in preparing an information document for COP-7 on the topic of "ICRI resolutions on small island developing states and coral reefs and on cold-water coral reefs, and their relevance to the Convention on Biological Diversity". COP-7, in its decision VII/5, took note with appreciation of this information document (UNEP/CBD/COP/7/INF/26).

44. The Secretariat collaborated with the IUCN Global Marine Programme in producing an information document for COP-7 on "management of risks to the biodiversity of seamounts and cold water coral communities beyond national jurisdiction". This document, as well as a side event on the same topic held at COP-7, provided background information to COP on its deliberations on issues related to biological diversity in the high seas.

(d) Alien species and genotypes

45. The Secretariat, in collaboration with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the IUCN Environmental Law Center, prepared an information document for COP-7 on "the proposed Ballast Water Convention and its relevance to the Convention on Biological Diversity" (UNEP/CBD/COP/7/INF/24). The information document provided background information on the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments, which entered into force in February 2004. The Secretariat is currently undertaking further background research on this convention, and its implications for the CBD.

DECISIONS VI/4 AND VII/2. BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY OF DRY AND SUB-HUMID LANDS

46. In decision VI/4, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to *inter alia* prepare a proposal for the development of a mechanism to coordinate activities on the inter-linkages between biodiversity, desertification/land degradation and climate change. SBSTTA recommended that the proposal for the further refinement of the programme of work, including the list of expected outcomes, and timeframes, potential actors, and indicators of progress in the implementation (Recommendation VIII/4); this recommendation was adopted at the seventh meeting of the COP (decision VII/2). The COP further adopted the proposed process for the periodic assessment of the status and trends of biological diversity in dry and sub-humid lands.

47. In paragraph 3 of decision VII/2, the COP requested the Executive Secretary to ensure that the parts of the programme of work relating to other thematic programmes of work of the Convention are taken into account when developing and reviewing these programmes of work;

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48. In paragraph 4 of the same decision, the COP requested the Executive Secretary, in consultation with Parties, to develop targets for the implementation of the programme of work, taking into account relevant ongoing initiatives and following the approach taken in the development of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (decision VI/9, annex) and be in line with decision VII/8;

49. Furthermore, in paragraph 5 of the same decision, COP requested the Executive Secretary to further develop mechanisms for facilitating the synergistic implementation of these conventions, especially at the national level. In paragraph 6, the review of the national biodiversity strategies and action plans under the CBD should be facilitated at the national level to harmonize them with the national action programmes under the UNCCD and the national adaptation plans of action under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

50. Decision VII/31 on the multi-year programme of work of Convention up to 2010, specifies that the programme of work on biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands will be under in-depth review at the eighth meeting of the COP and at a preceding meeting of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA).

51. In response to these COP decisions the following activities were carried out:

(a) Paragraphs 3, 4,5 and 6 of decision VII/2

52. In response to paragraphs 5 and 6 of decision VII/2, the CBD is furthering its work on "practicing synergy initiative" between the Rio Conventions. An advance-briefing note on the initiative was submitted to the Joint Liaison Group for consideration at the January 2004 meeting. The terms of reference (TOR) for a consultant/team of consultants to assist the Secretariat with the preparations of a first sub-regional workshop on the initiative to be held in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region were sent out. The other Rio Convention Secretariats were invited to comment on the draft TORs, and made recommendations for potential consultants. The workshop, which was tentatively scheduled to take place from 10 to 14 May 2004 has been rescheduled for September 2004. The planned workshop was discussed with national focal points from the SADC region at the margins of COP-7.

53. Specific inputs to the preparations of a workshop "Forests and Forest Ecosystems: Promoting Synergy in the Implementation of the Three Rio Conventions", which will take place in Viterbo, Italy, from 5 to 7 April 2004, were made in the context of decision VII/2.

(b) Review of the implementation of the programme of work

54. In preparation of the review of the programme of work at COP-8 (decision VII/31), the Secretariat has prepared proposals of how the review process should take place. These proposals are currently being discussed within the Secretariat. In support of the review process it is anticipated that an intern will work on this issue during this summer; the selection process has already been initiated.

55. Letters to relevant organizations and key collaborators in the implementation of the programme of work on relevant decisions from COP-7 are currently being prepared.

(i) Assessment of status and trends (Activity 1 of the programme of work):

56. The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) and the FAO's Global Land Degradation Assessment (LADA) prepared reports information documents containing proposals on how to address the assessment needs of the programme of work on biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands to COP-7 as requested by SBSTTA (see UNEP/CBD/COP/7/INF/34 and UNEP/CBD/COP/7/INF/29, respectively). The Secretariat commented on earlier versions of the documents at the request of the collaborators and ensured that they facilitated the timely availability of the documents at COP-7.

57. The Secretariat provided review comments on the Gariep Basin Millennium Ecosystem Assessment review, part of the Southern African sub-regional MA report. Furthermore, the draft chapters

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“drivers of change and “drylands” of the *conditions* volume of the MA were also reviewed, in particular how these chapters address the needs of the programme of work on biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands.

(ii) Areas of particular value and/or under threat (Activity 2 of the programme of work)

58. UNEP-WCMC presented a proposal on how this activity could be addressed to COP-7 (UNEP/CBD/COP/7/INF/30). The Secretariat, in several interactions, commented on earlier concepts of the proposal. A consultative meeting on how to bring forward the suggested activities took place on the margins of COP-7.

59. A side-event organised by the Ecoagriculture Partners during COP-7 focused on the importance of including areas of (eco-) agricultural importance globally, the evaluation of existing "hot spots" in dry and sub-humid lands and the further identification of priority areas for conservation. The Secretariat participated in the event and has initiated follow-up action for potential collaboration between the various key partners for the implementation of activity 2 of the programme of work.

(iii) Indicators (Activity 3 of the programme of work)

60. The proposals/reports from the MA and LADA and UNEP-WCMC contain references to work on indicators as integrated into the assessment ongoing processes.

(iv) Knowledge on processes that affect biodiversity (Activity 4 of the programme of work):

61. In December 2003, a regional synergy workshop on "agrobiodiversity" was hosted by the Government of Mali with support from GTZ, FAO, IPGRI, CTA and others. The Secretariat prepared written sections for the proceedings of the workshop after the meeting. The Secretariat prepared a presentation about the Convention, its programmes of work on agricultural biological diversity and dry and sub-humid lands, and on synergy among Conventions.

(v) Benefits derived from biological diversity (Activity 5 of the programme of work)

62. The side-event of Ecoagriculture Partners discussed the importance of addressing economic valuation of (eco-)agricultural areas in dry and sub-humid lands. The Secretariat is currently following-up on possibilities of engaging Ecoagriculture Partners as a key collaborator for the implementation of this activity of the programme of work.

(vi) Best management practices (Activity 6 of the programme of work)

63. Several side-events took place during COP-7, demonstrating best practices of relevance to the programme of work. The Secretariat was present at a number of such side-events and established relevant contacts for follow up. In particular, contributions from the Equator Initiative of UNDP were discussed.

(vii) Measures for conservation and sustainable use - promotion of responsible resource management - support for sustainable livelihoods (Activities 7 to 9 of the programme of work):

64. Several side-events took place during COP-7, demonstrating best practices of relevance to the programme of work. The Secretariat was present at a number of such side-events and established relevant contacts for follow up. Additional material was gathered from relevant organisations and countries, that document measures taken under activities 7 to 9 of the programme of work.

(c) Joint work programme with the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification:

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65. A joint side event between the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and CBD Secretariats entitled "Practicing Synergy Initiative: Joining heads and hands in the implementation of the Rio Conventions" was held on Wednesday, 18 February 2004 on the margins of COP-7. The Executive Secretary of the UNCCD addressed the meeting.

DECISIONS VI/5 AND VII/3 AGRICULTURAL BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

66. In decision VI/5, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to:

- (i) Undertake, in collaboration with other institutions, the necessary steps for the full implementation of the programme of work as contained in Table 1 of the annex to the decision and to report, as presented in Table 2 of the same annex:
 - A preliminary assessment of status and trends of agricultural biodiversity, in collaboration with FAO and the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, to be submitted for consideration by SBSTTA prior to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
 - An analysis of lessons learned from case-studies, in collaboration with FAO, WTO, Parties and other relevant organizations, to be submitted for consideration by SBSTTA prior to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, including issues on cost-effective practices and technologies, partnerships and forums, and mainstreaming; and
 - Preparation of recommendations on capacity-building and policy for consideration by SBSTTA in time for consideration by the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
- (ii) Prepare a draft format for the thematic report on agro-biodiversity and report to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
- (iii) Study further the impacts of trade liberalization on agro-biodiversity in collaboration with UNEP, FAO, WTO and other relevant organizations.

67. In the same decision, the COP, *inter alia*:

- (i) Established an ad hoc technical expert group on the potential impacts of genetic use restriction technologies (GURTs) on smallholder farmers, indigenous and local communities and farmer's rights. The ad hoc technical expert group was requested to report to the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions and to SBSTTA prior to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (paragraph 21).
- (ii) Invited the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV), the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and other relevant organizations to examine, in the context of their work, the specific intellectual property implications of genetic use restriction technologies, particularly with respect to indigenous and local communities.

68. In paragraph 2 of decision VII/3, COP noted the postponement of the preparation of the final report of the comprehensive assessment of agricultural biological diversity and related milestones by two years (UNEP/CBD/COP/7/11, para. 66); further, in paragraph 4 of that decision, COP requested SBSTTA to consider the report of the AHTEG on Genetic Use Restriction Technologies at its tenth

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meeting with a view to providing advice to the Conference of the Parties at its eighth meeting, also taking into account decision VII/16 on Article 8j;

69. In paragraph 12 of decision VII/33, COP requested the Executive Secretary to invite FAO, in close collaboration with other relevant United Nations bodies and regional and international organisations, to identify and assess activities and available information on agricultural biodiversity before the submission of the third national report.

70. In response to the above decisions and in view of the implementation of the programme of work the following activities were undertaken.

71. A side-event organised by the Ecoagriculture Partners during COP-7 emphasised the importance of agricultural biological diversity to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity per se, and especially to food security. IPGRI and collaborators hosted a side-event entitled "Management of agricultural biodiversity for sustainable development: towards a research agenda" and another to inform on the launch of the Global Crop Diversity Trust.

72. The Executive Secretary contacted FAO to follow up on the Memorandum of Understanding, including the secondment of a FAO staff member to the Secretariat.

73. Letters to relevant organizations and key collaborators in the implementation of the programme of work on relevant decisions from COP-7 are currently being prepared.

DECISION VI/6 THE INTERNATIONAL TREATY ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE AND PARAGRAPHS 8 AND 13 OF DECISION VII/3 ON AGRICULTURAL BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AS RELEVANT TO THE TREATY

74. In its decision VI/6, the Conference of the Parties appealed to Parties and other Governments to give priority consideration to the signature and ratification of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

75. In paragraph 8 of decision VII/3 on agricultural biological diversity, COP welcomed, within the framework of the International Treaty of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA), and as part of its funding strategy, the development of the Global Crop Diversity Trust first launched at the WSSD as this contributes towards the development of an important endowment fund to support *ex situ* conservation centres worldwide. Furthermore, in paragraph 13 of the same decision, the COP urged Parties and other governments to ratify the ITPGRFA.

76. In response to these decisions, the following activities were carried out:

77. The Secretariat actively participated in a side event during COP-7, hosted by FAO, that dealt with the ITPGRFA.

78. Letters to relevant organizations and key collaborators in the implementation of the programme of work on relevant decisions from COP-7 on this issue are currently being prepared.

DECISIONS VI/7 and VII/7: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

79. In paragraph 3 of decision VI/7 A, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to prepare proposals for further development and refinement of guidelines for incorporating biodiversity-related issues into environmental-impact-assessment legislation or processes and in strategic impact assessment. Also, in decision VII/7, COP urged Parties and other Governments that have not done so to contribute case-studies on current experiences in environmental impact assessment and strategic

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environmental assessment procedures that incorporate biodiversity-related issues as well as experiences in applying the guidelines contained in the annex to decision VI/7 A.

80. In response to these decisions the following activities were carried out:

(i) Further development of guidelines for environmental impact assessment

81. The Secretariat has continued discussions with the members of the biodiversity and ecology section of the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) on ways to involve a wider audience in the further development and refinement of guidelines for incorporating biodiversity-related issues into environmental-impact-assessment legislation or processes and in strategic impact assessment, including through the designation by IAIA of focal points for liaison with the CBD national focal points.

82. The Secretariat has prepared an abstract for a keynote presentation on biodiversity and impact assessment at the Annual meeting of the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA'04, Vancouver 24-20 April 2004). At this meeting the Secretariat will also be involved in discussions within the theme forum on the integrated assessment of international trade.

83. On the margins of COP-7, the Secretariat discussed and commented on the draft review, prepared for the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) in accordance with the request in CMS Resolution 7.2 (Impact Assessment and Migratory Species) of existing international guidance in the field of EIA.

(ii) Capacity development in biodiversity and impact assessment

84. A Steering Committee meeting of the project on capacity building in biodiversity and impact assessment in developing countries will be held prior to IAIA'04. The project is now fully operational and will focus on selection criteria for participating countries and project components.

DECISION VI/8: GLOBAL TAXONOMY INITIATIVE

85. In decision VI/8, the COP requested the Executive Secretary to *inter alia*: (i) initiate regional meetings of scientists, managers and policy makers to prioritize the most urgent global taxonomic needs; (ii) coordinate activities of the GTI with existing initiatives such as the GBIF and the CHM; and (iii) complete the guide to the Global Taxonomy Initiative.

86. Decision VII/31 on the multi-year programme of work of Convention up to 2010, specifies that the programme of work on Global Taxonomy Initiative will be under in-depth review at the eighth meeting of the COP and at a preceding meeting of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA).

87. In response to these decisions, the following activities were carried out:

(a) Regional and global meetings.

88. The Secretariat participated in a SACNET (Southern Asian countries) regional network of BioNET-INTERNATIONAL meeting held on 12 February 2004 on the margins of COP-7. The meeting was organized to discuss progress of SACNET endorsement by Governments of South Asia to develop a shared vision for pooling, sharing and optimising regional expertise, records, collections, infrastructure and technologies for the further enhancement of taxonomic capacity in the region. While Sri Lanka had endorsed the initiative, some countries including Bhutan and Maldives needed further clarification on the financial implications and benefits of membership in the regional network. The network agreed to facilitate proposal preparation for funding to promote taxonomic capacity building in Southern Asia.

(b) Co-ordination with existing activities:

89. The Secretariat became a member of the BioNET-INTERNATIONAL Board. The Secretariat attended the Board meeting held in Switzerland in December 2003 to discuss, among other issues, performance of the regional Taxonomy capacity building LOOPs of BioNET-INTERNATIONAL, future funding for BioNET-INTERNATIONAL and the terms of reference for the review of BioNET-INTERNATIONAL. The review recommended that BioNET-INTERNATIONAL should continue its capacity building activities in taxonomy. Furthermore, a draft Memorandum of Understanding between the Secretariat and BioNET-INTERNATIONAL was prepared and is currently under mutual discussion.

90. A side event was organized on the margins of COP-7 on 13 February 2004 in partnership with the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), ASEANET network of BioNET-INTERNATIONAL, GTI National Focal Point, (Belgium), and the Borneo Biodiversity and Ecosystem Conservation Programme, to promote and address on-going activities in research, networking and capacity building to overcome the taxonomic impediment. The extent of the taxonomic impediment was presented and possible ways of overcoming it were described as including institutional building, personnel training at all levels, scientific and technical cooperation and support for knowledge generation. Several pilot and case studies were also presented.

91. A meeting on financial resources and capacity building for the GTI was also held on the margins of COP-7. The meeting was organized by the Secretariat and involved the GTI Coordination Mechanism and representatives of the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) and its implementing agency representatives (UNEP, UNDP and the World Bank). The purpose of the meeting was to review currently available funding sources and other initiatives for capacity building activities relevant to the GTI. The meeting was expected to assist Parties make more efficient use of existing financial resources and promote more efficient regional and global co-ordination of fund-raising efforts directed towards capacity building measures within the framework of the GTI.

(c) The GTI coordination mechanism

92. The third meeting of the Coordination Mechanism was held in the margins of COP-7 on 8 February 2004. The meeting discussed: (i) ways and means for the in-depth review of the implementation of the programme of work of the GTI and suggested and agreed that the in-depth review should focus on operational objectives 1 and 3 of the programme of work of the GTI. Given that very little progress could yet be reported towards the implementation of activities under operational objectives 4 and 5 due to the short time as well as the lack of sufficient financial and other resources, the review process could perhaps provide further focus and to develop target-oriented outputs for the planned activities in operational objectives 4 and 5 of the GTI programme of work. The meeting also agreed to develop a brief questionnaire focussing on specific GTI related issues for data collection for the in-depth review; (ii) discussions also focused on the finalization of activities that should be promoted by the GTI National Focal Points; (iii) obtaining results from commitments made by different institutions as elaborated in the document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/INF/16; (iv) fundraising for the GTI and coordination of the development of a global directory of taxonomic expertise and biological collections; and (v) the finalization of the GTI guide.

(d) The GTI Guide

93. The draft of the GTI guide (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/INF/30) was submitted to the Coordination Mechanism at its third meeting on the margins of COP-7. It is currently under revision to incorporate all the comments for its further refinement.

(e) In-depth review of the GTI

94. In view of the fact that the third national report will not be available by the time the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice will review implementation of the programme of work for the Global Taxonomy Initiative, a draft questionnaire has been developed to be sent to the Parties, other Governments, relevant national and international taxonomic institutions (in accordance with decision VII/9), to obtain information needed for the in-depth review.

DECISIONS VI/9 AND VII/10: GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR PLANT CONSERVATION

95. In Decision VI/9, the Conference of the Parties requested SBSTTA to (i) take the targets into consideration in its periodic reviews of the thematic and cross-cutting programmes of work; and (ii) develop ways and means, within the Convention's thematic and cross-cutting programmes of work, for promoting implementation of the Strategy, and for monitoring and assessing progress; and to report to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

96. In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to implement the further work required to develop and implement the Strategy giving due consideration to the need to: (i) clarify the scope of activities, develop sub-targets or milestones for each target and, develop baseline data and indicators to monitor progress towards achieving the targets; (ii) develop regional components of the Strategy; and (iii) establish, if appropriate, a flexible coordination mechanism.

97. In decision VII/10 the COP welcomed the establishment, by the Executive Secretary, of a flexible coordination mechanism for the Strategy, comprising: liaison groups to be convened as necessary according to established procedures; national focal points, as determined by Parties; the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation; and the Secretariat, including the Programme Officer supported by Botanic Gardens Conservation International;

98. In the same decision the COP requested the Executive Secretary, with the support of members of the global partnership for plant conservation, to elaborate proposals for a toolkit, including a checklist to assist Parties in integrating the targets into their strategies, plans and programmes, for review by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice prior to the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

99. Furthermore, the COP decided to integrate the targets of the Strategy into all the thematic and relevant cross-cutting programmes of work of the Convention and requested the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to prepare proposals for the respective programmes of work when they are due for review according to the multi year programme of work of the Conference of the Parties (decision VII/31), and proposes certain approaches of how to do this); and decided to integrate the targets of the Strategy into the reporting framework for the third national reports; while reflecting the fact that the targets are a flexible framework within which national and/or regional targets may be developed, in line with paragraphs 3 and 4 of decision VI/9.

100. In response to these decisions and SBSTTA recommendations the following activities were carried out:

101. Prior to COP the Secretariat conducted an e-mail consultation of the launch of a global partnership on the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC). Following the extensive consultations a side event on the GSPC and the global partnership took place on Friday, the 13th February 2004 on the margins of COP-7. Prof. Oteng Yeboah, CBD SBSTTA Chair and Director, CSIR, Ghana, chaired the meeting. A scene setting presentation was made by Prof. Brian Huntley, Director of the National Botanical Institute, South Africa and Project Leader of the GEF funded Southern Africa Botanical Network (SABONET); Dr. Brian Tan, South East Asia Network for Botanic Gardens, Singapore and Dr. Abu Zinada, Chair, Arabian Plant Specialist Group and Head, National Commision for Wildlife Conservation and Development, Saudi Arabia made further presentations. A discussion panel consisting of representatives of institutions that have led the stakeholder consultations including FAO, IPGRI, BGCI, GISP, Plantlife International, WWF, IUCN, UNEP-WCMC, CITES and People and Plants International was also established.

102. Another GSPC relevant side event that took place during COP-7, was a session held on Tuesday, 17th February 2004, on the UK response to the GSPC, hosted by the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA). The UK Plant Diversity Challenge was launched by the UK Minister of

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State and Agri-Environment, Elliot Morley, MP. The event was chaired by the Chair of SBSTTA-9, Prof. Alfred Oteng-Yeboah (Ghana). The Executive Secretary of the CBD also addressed the participants.

103. Following COP-7, letters to organisations informing of the establishment of the global partnership for plant conservation, and invitations to organizations to contribute to the implementation of the Strategy were drafted.

104. The Secretariat prepared a statement for delivery at a national workshop on the GSPC, held from 26 to 27 February 2004 in Jabalpur, India.

105. The Secretariat attended the national GSPC workshop in the Seychelles, from 15 to 19 March. The workshop addressed the application of the GSPC in a national context, taking into consideration decision VII/10 of the COP on integration of the targets into other programme areas under the Convention.

DECISION VI/12 ECOSYSTEM APPROACH

106. In its decision VI/12, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to: (i) continue the compilation and dissemination of case studies and lessons learned and report to SBSTTA prior to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties; (ii) carry out the activity specified above in collaboration with relevant organization and bodies, in particular the United Nations Forum on Forests, to convene a meeting of experts to compare the ecosystem approach with sustainable forest management and develop proposals for their integration; and (iii) develop proposals for the refinement of the principles and operational guidance.

107. COP-7 considered the results of SBSTTA-9 on the ecosystem approach, and adopted decision VII/11 on this topic. In this decision, COP-7 agreed that the priority at this time should be on facilitating the implementation of the ecosystem approach. In this regard, the decision, *inter alia*, requests the development of a web-based “sourcebook” for the ecosystem approach, accessible through the clearing-house mechanism; continuing collaboration with international and regional organizations; and continuing compilation and analysis of case studies. As the tasks requested by COP-6 in its decision VI/12 has now been completed, future work will concentrate on implementation of decision VII/11.

108. The Dutch Coastal Management Center (RIKZ) collaborated with the CBD Secretariat to provide an analysis of the ecosystem approach in relation to integrated marine and coastal area management. This analysis is included in CBD Technical Report 14 (Integrated marine and coastal area management (IMCAM) approaches for implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity).

109. As part of a Letter of Intent (LOI) with the Netherlands, the Secretariat has started to identify “model forest” sites to carry out regional workshops on the implementation of the ecosystem approach.

DECISIONS VI/20 and VII/26 ON COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, INITIATIVES AND CONVENTIONS

110. The Conference of the Parties in decision VI/20, invited the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to continue its close working relationships with the Executive Secretary and to extend its cooperation on those relevant areas identified in the decisions of the current meeting under the item on agricultural biological diversity, in particular on the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture;

111. Furthermore, pursuant to the same decision the Conference of the Parties requested SBSTTA and the Executive Secretary to:(i) continue to cooperate with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), including its Kyoto Protocol, and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) with a view to maximizing synergies between these processes; (ii) continue cooperation as member of the joint liaison group consisting of the UNFCCC, UNCCD and CBD. The COP also urged

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the joint liaison group to become fully operational in order to facilitate cooperation between the conventions both at national and international levels; and (iii) take the actions elaborated in the third joint work plan (2002-2006) between the CBD and the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar) into full consideration in furthering the respective programmes of work for these areas;

112. Furthermore, in decision VII/26, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, in close collaboration with relevant conventions, organizations and bodies, to examine options for a flexible framework in order to enhance implementation through improved cooperation.

113. In response to these decisions, the following activities were carried out by the Secretariat:

(a) Cooperation with the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

114. Decision VII/34 approved the post of a Programme Officer for Agricultural Biodiversity for the next biennium. As follow-up to that decision the Executive Secretary drafted a letter to FAO, inquiring about the status of preparation for the secondment by FAO of a suitable candidate to fill this post. Decision VII/3 on agricultural biological diversity includes several paragraphs related to FAO. A letter to FAO briefing the organisation on this and other relevant decisions has been drafted by the Executive Secretary. The Memorandum of Cooperation with FAO is still under discussion.

(b) Collaboration with the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) of the FAO

115. A Memorandum of Cooperation was signed between the IPPC and the CBD Secretariat on 25 February 2004 and a joint programme of work is being discussed between the two institutions and will involve activities on invasive alien species (various activities in decision VI/23) and living modified organisms under ICPM activities. Other matters of common interest include capacity building and information sharing.

(c) Cooperation with the UNFCCC and UNCCD

116. The fifth meeting of the Joint Liaison Group of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the UNCCD and the UNFCCC was held on 30 January 2004, at the United Nations Office in Bonn. The meeting was chaired by the Executive Secretary. A retreat for the Executive Secretaries of the Rio Conventions and the Chief Executive Officer of the Global Environment Facility discussing priority issues such as adaptation, capacity building and technology transfer followed on 31st January 2004 at the same venue.

117. A workshop "Forests and Forest Ecosystems: Promoting Synergy in the Implementation of the Three Rio Conventions", which will take place in Viterbo, Italy, from 5 to 7 April 2004 has been organized by the UNCCD. The CBD Secretariat provided substantive and organizational inputs into the meeting preparations.

118. A joint side event between the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and CBD Secretariats entitled "Practicing Synergy Initiative: Joining heads and hands in the implementation of the Rio Conventions" was held on 18 February 2004 at the margins of COP-7 (<http://www.biodiv.org/meetings/cop-07/press/brief.asp?id=6933>).

119. The Secretariat co-organized the side event on "Climate Change and Biodiversity: Report of the Ad-Hoc Technical Expert Group" on the margins of COP-7. The Secretariat provided background to the report of the Ad-Hoc Group on Biological Diversity and Climate Change, followed by a presentation of the key results by several of its leading authors.

(d) Cooperation with the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar)

120. The implementation of the Joint Programme of Work (UNEP/CBD/COP/7/INF/27) was reviewed at COP-7 (decision VII/4). Members of both Secretariats met at COP-7 and agreed to consider the joint-

work plan in the light of relevant decisions taken at COP-7. A meeting is scheduled for 30 April, 2004, in Montreal.

121. The Secretariat continues to contribute to the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) of the Ramsar Convention working groups, including substantial inputs into the subject of valuation of wetland goods and services.

(e) Cooperation with the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

122. Representatives of the two Secretariats (CBD and CMS) met in the margins of COP-7 to discuss progress to date on the joint work plan and potential revisions in the light of decisions at COP-7. The discussion also concerned the elaboration by CMS of guidance on impact assessment and migratory species and the relationship to the guidelines contained in decision VI/7-A as well as the potential contribution of CMS to assessing progress towards the 2010 biodiversity target.

(f) Cooperation with non-governmental organizations

123. The Secretariat made, on separate occasions, visits to the WorldFish Center, Malaysia, during a side trip from COP-7. Initial contact was made and discussions held on reinvigorating general collaboration. The second meeting followed up at programme level on matters of mutual interest and in particular, but not limited to, the programmes of work on the biological diversity of inland water and marine and coastal ecosystems. A firm basis for strengthened collaboration was established.

124. The Secretariat liaised with the arid lands initiative of IUCN, the IUCN Regional Office for Southern Africa (ROSA), UNDP-Drylands Development Centre, UNEP-GEF, the WorldBank African Regional Office, the WWF Southern Africa Programme Office (SAPO), Desert Research Foundation of Namibia and other interested NGOs and other institutions about the preparations for the planned sub-regional practicing synergy initiative workshop (September 2004). The Secretariat invited these organisations to propose consultants or to submit expressions of interest to carry out the requested consultancy as per agreed to Terms of Reference (see decision VII/2 on dry and sub-humid lands).

125. The Secretariat was involved in preparations of a workshop on synergies between CITES and the CBD, organized by TRAFFIC and to be held from 20-24 April 2004 in the Island of Vilm, Germany. The Secretariat provided inputs for proposing participants and prepared a presentation.

(g) Cooperation with UNEP, GEF, WHO

126. At a meeting held on the margins of COP-7, the Secretariat both participated and became a member of the steering committee for the UNEP-GEF Project on Integrated Management of Peatlands for Biodiversity and Climate Change.

127. The Secretariat provided inputs to desk top review of environmental health decision-making in key issue areas of WHO/UNEP program entitled "Health and Environment Linkages Initiative" (HELI).

(h) Cooperation with UNDP and UNESCO

128. On the margins of COP-7, the Secretariat, the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and UNDP signed a joint Memorandum of Cooperation for activities to meet the 2010 targets of the CBD Strategic Plan. The ceremony was attended by the Executive Secretary, as well as the Global Manager of the UNDP/GEF Small Grants Programme, and the Deputy Director of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre. A central aim of the Memorandum links World Heritage sites and networks that each party supports in order to build national and community-based capacity to secure the long term sustainability of protected areas and help meet the biodiversity 2010 target.

(i) Cooperation with UNIDO

129. The Secretariat participated in the Global Biotechnology Forum organized by UNIDO and the Government of Chile and with the active participation of the University of Concepción, Chile. The

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Secretariat drew attention to the programme of work on technology transfer and technological and scientific cooperation and COP-MOP1 decisions; in particular decision I/6 on identification of LMOs for food, feed or for processing.

DECISIONS VI/22 and VII/1 ON FOREST BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

130. In paragraph 19 of decision VI/22, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to: (i) initiate, in collaboration with the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) Secretariat and the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), actions identified as important first steps towards the implementation of the expanded work programme; (ii) establish a liaison group on non-timber forest resources; (iii) invite relevant organizations to collaborate with the Secretariat on issues related to fire prevention and management and forest biodiversity. Also, in decision VII/1 the Conference of Parties requested the Executive Secretary to: (iv) continue and further strengthen its work on forest biological diversity including the report on the effects on forest biological diversity of insufficient forest law enforcement as requested in paragraph 19(e) of decision VI/22; and (v) organize another meeting of the AHTEG on the review of implementation of the programme of work prior to the eleventh meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.

131. In response to these decisions, the following activities were carried out:

(a) Collaborative activities requested in paragraph 19 of decision VI/22

132. The Secretariat prepared a voluntary contribution on the relevance of information from Criteria and Indicators for measuring progress in the implementation of the expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity, as inputs for a FAO/ITTO Expert Consultation on Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management, held from 2-5 March 2004 in Cebu, Philippines.

133. The Secretariat provided UNFFS with an update of activities carried out in collaboration with CPF members during 2003 as part of the CPF Framework for the 4th session of UNFF in Geneva, to be held during May 2nd-14th 2004. The Secretariat also provided extensive comments on the following draft documents prepared by relevant CPF members for UNFF4: (i) forest related scientific knowledge; (ii) social and cultural aspects of forests; (iii) monitoring, assessment and reporting; and (iv) criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management.

134. The Secretariat held informal consultations with a representative of the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) on the margins of COP-7. Two concrete areas of collaboration were discussed: (i) provision of technical input from the Secretariat for the preparation of the ITTO manual on forest restoration (ongoing); and (ii) provision of technical input from the Secretariat for a revised version of ITTO's guidelines on conserving biodiversity in production forests, expected to start toward the end of 2004.

135. The Secretariat both hosted and participated as a member in the third meeting of the CPF Task Force on Streamlining Forest-related Reporting held in Montreal, 29-30 March 2004. A proposal entitled "Forest Reporting Information Service" was drafted and is to be presented at the next CPF meeting in Geneva on 2 May 2004 for consideration of CPF members. The proposal aims to accelerate progress towards sustainable forest management through improved decision making from a better access and coordination of information within and between international forest-related processes.

136. The Secretariat continued its work towards improving the forest web portal. An updated pilot version of the web portal can be accessed at: <http://vs/programmes/areas/forest/portal/home.shtml>. The portal has been designed to address all the objectives of the programme of work through the use of monthly discussion topics. It is expected to be launched during late April 2004.

(a) Non-timber forest resources

137. Efforts were made to secure funding for a face-to-face meeting of the liaison group on non timber forest resources later in 2004. The Secretariat participated in a side event on the Great Apes Survival Project (GRASP) during COP-7. The electronic forum on NTFR is still active.

(b) Fire prevention and management and forest biodiversity

138. The Secretariat received a positive response from the Global Fire Monitoring Centre (GFMC) in relation to information document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/INF/15 sent in December 2003, where elements for a possible joint work programme on forest fire issues are laid out. A meeting between the Executive Secretary, the Executive Secretaries of the other Rio Conventions, and the Director of GFMC is planned to be held in Viterbo, Italy, on the margins of the workshop on synergies among CBD, UNFCCC and UNCCD in April 2004 to further discuss concrete actions based on the above document in a synergistic manner.

(c) Forest law enforcement and biological diversity

139. The Secretariat prepared a notification to further develop its ongoing assessment on the effects on forest biological diversity of insufficient forest law enforcement. The notification will be sent to CBD National Focal Points and CPF members, to ask for specific contributions. A draft report prepared by the Secretariat during November 2003 was also sent for comments to those Parties, other Governments and relevant organisations that provided input to its preparation, as well as to those Parties, other Governments and relevant organisations that are cited in the draft report but that did not provide input.

(d) AHTEG on review of implementation of the programme of work

140. The Secretariat has proposed tentative dates for the second meeting of the AHTEG: between late September and early October 2005. The Government of Germany will be contacted about this proposal. The Secretariat prepared an electronic forum to receive comments from AHTEG members on the proposed targets to the objectives of element 1 of the work programme. The e-forum is still active.

141. Following a request contained in paragraph 22 of decision VI/22, the Executive Secretary prepared a draft format for the review of implementation of the expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity. The draft format was presented for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting as contained in the document UNEP/CBD/COP/7/17/Add.7. It should be noted that the draft format was prepared on the basis of the recommendations made at a meeting of an ad hoc technical expert group held in Montpellier, France from 24 to 27 November 2003. The draft format was adopted by COP-7 as a part of the guidelines for the third national report.

142. In addition, as of 30 March 2004, and in response to paragraph 27 of decision VI/22, the Secretariat had received 16 voluntary reports on the implementation of the expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity. A synthesis of the voluntary reports submitted was also presented as an information document to the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting as contained in the document UNEP/CBD/COP/7/INF. 7.

DECISION VI/23: ALIEN SPECIES THAT THREATEN ECOSYSTEMS, HABITATS OR SPECIES

143. In decision VI/23, the COP adopted the guiding principles for the prevention, introduction and mitigation of impacts of invasive alien species and requested the Executive Secretary to: (i) carry out specific activities with GISP and other relevant organizations including developing a joint programme of work among the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Global Invasive Species Programme (GISP), the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar), the International Maritime Organization, the International Plant Protection Convention and other relevant bodies; (ii) support the development and dissemination on technical tools and related information; (iii) integrate invasive alien species considerations into thematic

work programmes of the Convention and when reporting on the thematic work programmes to report specifically on how the threats and impacts of invasive alien species will be addressed; (iv) explore means to facilitate capacity enhancement for eradication work on alien species on continents and islands; and (v) identify mechanism(s) for providing Parties with access to financial support for rapidly responding to new incursions by alien species in collaboration with GISP, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), FAO and the OECD.

144. Also, paragraph 6 (d) of SBSTTA recommendation VI/5, decided to initiate pilot assessments on the impacts of invasive alien species.

145. In response to this decision and SBSTTA recommendation, the following activities were carried out:

(a) Collaboration with the Global Invasive Species Programme (GISP)

146. The assessment of ecological and socio-economic impacts of invasive species on island ecosystems was considered as an information document at the ninth meeting of SBSTTA (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/INF/33). This document is in the process of being published in a CBD technical series.

147. The key elements relating to the impact on inland water ecosystems, which were identified in an expert consultation (Washington, 14 - 15 July 2003), has been expanded through a web-based discussion forum. The final document was recently released and will be considered by the SBSTTA at its tenth meeting. The report will also support decision VI/23 of the Conference of Parties (COP) that urged research and assessments on the causes and consequences, as well as the prevention and management, of IAS.

148. A restricted website is in the process of being finalized in the Secretariat to facilitate the contribution of information in relation to activities in paragraph 24 of decision VI/23 from all GISP partners. The results from the website will be disseminated by the Secretariat.

149. The Secretariat participated in a teleconference in January 2004 as part of the GISP Board meeting. The teleconference discussed side events and collaboration between the GISP leading up to COP-7, funding options for the GISP were also discussed.

150. After the Secretariat commissioned the Global Invasive Species Programme to co-ordinate and develop an assessment of the socio-economic and biological impacts of invasive alien species on inland water- and island ecosystems, the GISP finalized the draft and transmitted it to the Secretariat on 5 February 2004. The draft report is currently being revised.

151. In the margins of COP-7, the Secretariat discussed ongoing and possible future joint activities with the GISP.

152. The Government of New Zealand offered to fund an AHTEG meeting to address gaps and inconsistencies in the international regulatory frameworks at global and regional levels. Preliminary discussions regarding the preparation of the meeting have started between the Secretariat and the New Zealand national focal point.

DECISION VI/28 and DECISION VII/31 ON THE MULTI-YEAR PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES UP TO 2010

153. The Conference of the Parties, in its decision VII/31 on the Inter-Sessional Meeting on the Multi-Year Programme of WORK (MYPoW) agreed *inter alia*, that in its reviews of the programmes of work it will focus on: (i) assessing the implementation and effectiveness of the programme of work; and (ii)

updating the programme of work if necessary, by retiring or replacing activities and by making adjustments to reflect changes in the international context.

154. In response to this decision, the following activity was carried out:

155. A prototype of the forest web portal has been conceptualized and created as a service for Parties to seek and find support and partnerships for the implementation of the expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity. It is expected to be launched in late April 2004.

DECISION VII/6: ASSESSMENT PROCESSES

156. In decision VII/6, the Conference of the Parties took note of the progress of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment and the outline for the synthesis report that will be prepared for the Convention on Biological Diversity and encouraged national focal points to participate in the review of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment. In paragraph 5 of the same decision, COP requested the Executive Secretary to cooperate with UNEP on the follow-up of the process of international environmental governance

157. In response to this decision the following activities were carried out:

(a) Millennium Ecosystem Assessment

158. The Secretariat participated actively in the review of the first drafts of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment reports including through the submission of review comments, as chapter authors and as members of the writing team of the biodiversity synthesis report.

(b) International Environmental Governance

159. The Secretariat participated in two back-to-back meetings on environmental governance organized by UNEP - Intergovernmental Consultation on Strengthening the Scientific Base of the United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi (14-15 January 2004) and the Inter-agency Consultation on Strengthening the Scientific Base of the United Nations Environment Programme also in Nairobi (16 January 2004).

160. The Executive Secretary prepared comments on the draft programme for an International Biodiversity Conference to be held in Paris, France in January 2005. This meeting will focus on international environmental governance. The Executive Secretary agreed in principle to participate in the preparations for this meeting as a member of the Steering Committee meeting.

DECISION VII/8: MONITORING AND INDICATORS

161. In decision VII/8, COP requested the Executive Secretary to continue collaborating with FAO, the OECD, the European Environment Agency, and other relevant international and regional organizations and initiatives on the further development and consolidation of indicators relevant to the 2010 biodiversity target.

162. In response to this decision the following activities were carried out:

163. Letters have been prepared to inform partner organizations of the decisions that are particularly relevant to their mandates in the area of biodiversity monitoring and indicators and to propose ways in which the decisions might be implemented.

164. On the margins of COP-7, the Secretariat organized, in collaboration with UNEP-WCMC, a side event on the 2010 target and indicators. It provided opportunity to discuss the proposed set of global indicators and to elucidate the role of various institutions and sectors of society in collecting and validating information, and the application of the resulting information for planning at various levels (see also under decisions VII/30 on the strategic plan).

165. Also on the margins of COP-7, the Secretariat discussed with a representative of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) ways in which the CMS might contribute information relevant to assessing progress towards the 2010 target.

DECISION VII/15 BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

166. In decision VII/15, the Conference of the Parties invited: (i) Parties, other Governments, international organizations and other bodies to make use of the report on climate change and biodiversity prepared by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biological Diversity and Climate Change in order to promote synergies at the national level between the UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol and the CBD when implementing climate-change activities and their relation to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity (paragraph 2); and (ii) Parties, other Governments, funding agencies, research bodies and other organizations to address the gaps identified in the Report in order to help to optimize biodiversity conservation and sustainable use within climate change adaptation and mitigation projects.

167. In response to this decision, the following activities were carried out:

168. The Secretariat participated in the International Workshop on Adaptation to Climate Change, Sustainable Livelihoods and Biological Diversity, held in Costa Rica from 16-18 March 2004 by presenting a key-note paper on “Adaptation to climate change: links to, and impacts on, biodiversity”, as well as chairing one of the four working groups of the meeting. A chapter outline entitled “a framework for enhancing biodiversity resilience to climate change” was produced by the working group. The results of the AHTEG report on climate change and biodiversity served as an important source of information for developing the outline. The workshop organizers (Centre for International Forestry Research, Swiss Organization for Development and Cooperation, and the Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Centre) will produce a book containing four main chapters derived from each working group by the end of the year 2004.

169. The Secretariat co-organized a side event during COP-7 where the AHTEG report was presented in conjunction with the World Bank (also reported under decisions VI/20 and VII/26). During COP-7, the Government of Finland pledged its support to continue funding activities related to climate change and biodiversity under the Convention. A brief discussion between the Secretariat and representatives of the Government of Finland took place regarding future action.

DECISION VII/27 MOUNTAIN BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

170. In decision VII/27 the Conference of Parties adopted the programme of work on mountain biological diversity (decision VII/27) and requested the Executive Secretary to undertake a series of supporting activities geared to facilitating its implementation (paragraphs 10, 11, 12, and 13 of the decision).

171. The Secretariat is in the process of sending letters to a number of organisations dealing with mountain biological diversity, inviting them to collaborate in the implementation of the programme of work on mountain biological diversity.

DECISION VII/28 PROTECTED AREAS

172. In decision VII/28, the Conference of Parties adopted the programme of work on protected areas (annex to decision VII/28) and requested the Executive Secretary to undertake a series of supporting activities aimed at facilitating its implementation (paragraphs 34, 35, 36 (a), (b), (c)). Specifically, in paragraph 25 of the decision, COP established an *ad hoc* open ended working group on protected areas to support and review implementation of the programme of work and further requested the Executive Secretary to make arrangements to hold one meeting before COP-8.

173. In response to this decision, the following activities were carried out:

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174. The Secretariat held a meeting with the Director of UNESCO's World Heritage Centre (WHC), Dr. Francisco Bandarin, in Montreal on 23 March 2004. Discussions centred on how to implement the Memorandum of Cooperation signed between the Convention Biological Diversity, the World Heritage Centre and the UNDP GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP), during COP-7, and to further strengthen the collaboration between the two Conventions. The Secretariat further participated in a teleconference with representatives of WHC, UNDP-GEF SGP on 24 March 2004 on the same matter.

175. The Secretariat sent a letter to the Government of Italy requesting confirmation of the offer made at COP-7 to host and finance the first meeting of the ad hoc open ended group. A tentative date for the meeting has been set for April 18-22, 2005.

176. Two books were further distributed at COP-7: (i) "Protected Areas and Biodiversity" (available at: <http://www.biodiv.org/doc/publications/pa-brochure-en.pdf>); and (ii) CBD Technical Series 15 on "Biodiversity Issues for Consideration in the Planning, Establishment and Management of Protected Area Sites and Networks".

177. The Secretariat is in the process of sending letters to IUCN – WCPA and a number of other organisations dealing with management of protected areas, inviting them to collaborate in the implementation of the programme of work.

DECISION VII/31: ISLAND BIODIVERSITY

178. The multi-year programme of work up to 2010, adopted in decision VII/31, includes island biodiversity as a new thematic area under the Convention. This theme will be an item for in-depth consideration at the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, to be held in the first half of 2006. In paragraph 8 of decision VII/31, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to develop a preparatory process for the work of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) of the Convention on island biodiversity which should include, *inter alia*, electronic forums, an Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) in mid-2004, and a liaison group to be held immediately after the International Meeting for the Review of the Barbados Programme of Action that will take place in Mauritius in August/September 2004.

179. In response to this decision, the following activities were carried out:

180. In order to allow the widest possible participation, the Secretariat has created the Island Biodiversity Electronic Forum (IBEF), which can be accessed at: <http://www.biodiv.org/programmes/areas/island/forum.asp>. The electronic forum consists of five main sections, which respond to different issues and information needs identified in the terms of reference of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Island Biodiversity contained in annex II to the decision.

181. On 18 March 2004, the Executive Secretary circulated Notification 2004-019, informing Parties, UN organizations, non-government organizations, and indigenous and local communities about the launching of the electronic forum.

182. With the financial support from the Government of Spain, the Secretariat is organizing the meeting of the AHTEG to be held in the Canary Islands, in July 2004. The purpose of the meeting is to develop proposals for the programme of work on island biodiversity, to be subsequently submitted to the tenth meeting of the SBSTTA for its consideration.

183. The Secretariat issued Notification 2004-020, 22 March 2004, containing the terms of reference of the AHTEG on Island Biodiversity and the provisional agenda for the meeting and inviting Parties to nominate an expert, no later than 30 April 2004 for participation in the meeting. The selection criteria are set out in the notification.

184. The Secretariat, in collaboration with INSULA, the Scientific Council for Island Affairs, and the SIDS Unit of the United Nations department of Economic and Social Affairs jointly published a special issue of the International Journal on Island Affairs focusing on Island Biodiversity. The publication

contains several scientific articles on the main threats to island ecosystems as well as a number of case studies illustrating possible solutions for the conservation and sustainable use of island biological diversity, and is available on line at: <http://www.biodiv.org/programmes/areas/island/insula.asp>

SOCIAL ECONOMIC AND LEGAL MATTERS

DECISION VI/10 AND DECISION VII/16 ON ARTICLE 8(J) AND RELATED PROVISIONS

185. The Conference of the Parties, at its seventh meeting, adopted decision VII/16 on Article 8(j) and related provisions, addressing the respect, preservation and maintenance of traditional biodiversity related knowledge and the promotion of its broader application.

186. In order to encourage the full involvement and participation of indigenous and local communities in the work being carried under the CBD with regard to traditional knowledge, the Secretariat widely circulated decision VII/16 to other relevant organizations, and indigenous and local communities. The Secretariat also sent a communication to the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, requesting that decision VII/16 be transmitted to the third session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in May 2004, so as to inform participants of the developments under the Convention on Biological Diversity with regard to the respect, preservation and maintenance of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, as well as to set the stage for future work to be jointly undertaken by the Convention and the Permanent Forum.

187. In response to decision VII/16, the Executive Secretary is preparing a notification, providing further details on the implementation of decision VII/16 and inviting the contribution of relevant organization, indigenous and local communities.

DECISION VI/11 AND DECISION VII/17 ON LIABILITY AND REDRESS

188. The Secretariat prepared the Liability and Redress component of document UNEP/CBD/COP/7/13 on “Cross-cutting Issues: Progress Reports on Implementation” for the consideration of COP-7 at its meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in February 2004. On the basis of this document COP-7 adopted decision VII/17 on Liability and Redress (Article 14, paragraph 2).

189. Decision VII/17 takes note of the preparations made by the Executive Secretary for the meeting of the group of legal and technical experts on liability and redress in the context of paragraph 2 of Article 14 of the Convention and renews its request to the Executive Secretary (decision VI/11) to convene the group. The decision also urges Parties and Governments to make the necessary voluntary financial contributions to facilitate the convening of the group.

DECISION VI/13 AND DECISION VII/12 ON SUSTAINABLE USE AS A CROSS-CUTTING ISSUE

190. At its seventh meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopted decision VII/12 on Sustainable Use, which contains in annex II the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity and related recommendations.

191. In paragraph 4 of decision VII/12, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to undertake further work on issues pertaining to use of terms for sustainable use, adaptive management, monitoring and indicators, building on the outcome of the Addis Ababa workshop, and in particular and in line with Article 7 of the Convention, to further consolidate the work on the use of terms

and on associated instruments, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice prior to the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

192. The Conference of the Parties, recalling decisions V/15 and V/24, also requested the Executive Secretary to convene a series of technical experts workshops on ecosystem services assessment, financial costs and benefits associated with conservation of biodiversity, and sustainable use of biological resources. In response to paragraph 4 of decision VII/12, the Secretariat is presently working on the organization of the workshops.

DECISION VI/14 AND DECISION VII/14 ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND TOURISM

193. In decision VII/4, the Conference of the Parties adopted the Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development, which are annexed to the decision. The COP noted that the Guidelines are voluntary, but represent a range of opportunities for local, regional, national governments, indigenous and local communities and other stakeholders to manage tourism activities in an ecological, economic and socially sustainable manner.

194. In accordance with paragraph 3(a) of decision VII/14, the Secretariat has initiated work to develop a user's manual, checklists and, on the basis of experience gained, including the contribution of indigenous and local communities, which will be produced and made available a streamlined and user-friendly core set of improved voluntary guidelines.

DECISION VI/15 AND DECISION VII/18 ON INCENTIVE MEASURES

195. Prior to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, activities of the Secretariat consisted mainly of final preparations for this meeting. The Secretariat *inter alia*, finalized a CD-ROM containing an offline version of the revised webpages on economics, trade and incentives, as well as a brochure on incentive measures, that were released at the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

196. COP-7 considered SBSTTA recommendation IX/9 on the proposals for the application of ways and means to remove or mitigate perverse incentives, and subsequently adopted decision VII/18, on incentive measures.

197. Activities of the Secretariat after the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties consisted mainly of follow-up work: analysis of pertinent decisions, updating of the webpages on trade-economics and incentives, preparation of task tables for the Secretariat, Parties, and relevant international organizations, programming of activities in the coming biennium, preparation of information letters for international organizations, and preparation of notifications.

DECISION VI/24 AND DECISION VII/19 ON ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING AS RELATED TO GENETIC RESOURCES

198. Prior to COP-7, final preparations for the COP meeting were carried out by the Secretariat on the issue of access and benefit-sharing, such as introductory statements and contribution to the organization of Working Group II on access and benefit-sharing.

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199. During the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the Secretariat serviced Working Group II discussions related to access and benefit-sharing and the Contact Group established by the Chair of Working Group II to address access and benefit-sharing.

200. The COP adopted decision VII/19 on access and benefit-sharing as related to genetic resources which covers the following issues:

- Bonn Guidelines;
- Use of terms, definitions and/or glossary, as appropriate;
- Other approaches, as set out in decision VI/24B;
- International regime on access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing;
- Measures, to support compliance with prior informed consent and mutually agreed terms on which access was granted, in Contracting Parties with users of such resources under their jurisdiction;
- Needs for capacity-building identified by countries to implement the Bonn Guidelines.

201. Following COP-7, the Secretariat reviewed decision VII/19 on access and benefit-sharing and prepared tables regarding COP requests to the Secretariat, Parties, and other relevant organizations. Letters to relevant organizations were also prepared in order to bring to their attention COP-7 decisions of relevance to these organizations.

202. The Secretariat participated in the 6th session of the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property Rights, Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore, held in Geneva from 15 to 19 March 2004 and presented a statement on behalf of the CBD Secretariat on relevant outcomes at COP-7. The Secretariat also presented a side event on recent developments under the CBD of relevance to this committee and on relevant outcomes of COP-7 related to access and benefit-sharing, traditional knowledge and technology transfer and cooperation.

203. The Secretariat also participated in the UNEP Informal Advisory Group of Experts on access and benefit-sharing, held in Nairobi, on 23 to 26 March 2004.

DECISION VI/27 AND DECISION VII/33 ON OPERATIONS OF THE CONVENTION

204. The Secretariat prepared documents UNEP/CBD/COP/7/20/Add. 2 on “Operations of the Convention: Review and Consolidation of the decisions of the Conference of the Parties” and UNEP/CBD/COP/INF/16 on “Operations of the Convention: Review and Consolidation of the decisions of the Conference of the Parties pursuant to decision VI/27B” for the consideration of COP-7 at its meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in February 2004. On the basis of these documents COP-7 adopted decision VII/33 on Operations of the Convention.

205. In the decision VII/33 the COP, inter alia, retired a number of its previous decisions; adopted a phased process for the consolidation of its decisions; invited the Executive Secretary and the Executive Director, UNEP, to review and revise the administrative arrangements between the Secretariat and UNEP; decided to review rules 4 and 21 of its Rules of Procedure at its eighth meeting; and requested the Executive Secretary to make arrangements for regional preparatory meetings prior to COP 8.

DECISION VI/30: PREPARATIONS FOR THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE COP

206. Prior to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, activities of the Secretariat in the period under review consisted mainly of final preparations for this meeting. COP-7 took up technology transfer and cooperation as an item for in-depth consideration.

DECISION VII/29: TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY AND TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION

207. The seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, by decision VII/29 on the transfer of technology and technology cooperation, adopted a programme of work on technology transfer and technological and scientific cooperation.

208. In addition to the administrative work necessary after the meetings of the Conference of the Parties (such as the analysis of pertinent decisions, preparation of task tables, programming of activities, preparation of information letters and notifications), the Secretariat developed new webpages on technology transfer and technology cooperation, posted on the Secretariat website. These provisional webpages are structured along the elements of the programme of work on technology transfer and technology and scientific cooperation. Their development is the first step towards developing the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention into a central mechanism for the exchange of information on and facilitation of technology transfer and technology and scientific cooperation, consistent with the programme of work.

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BIOSAFETY

**DECISION VI/1 INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR THE CARTAGENA
PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY**

The Biosafety Protocol

209. The highlight during the reporting period under consideration was the holding of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (COP-MOP/1), from 23 to 27 February 2004 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The meeting was attended by more than 850 participants representing 81 Parties to the Protocol, 79 non-Parties, as well as several UN agencies, IGOs, NGOs, academia, indigenous organizations, industries and other observer organizations.

210. The delegates adopted a total of 14 decisions covering, inter alia, all the substantive issues that were to be addressed by the first meeting of COP-MOP, such as: decision-making procedure by Parties of import (Article 10.7); information-sharing and the Biosafety Clearing-House (Article 20); capacity building (Article 22); handling, transport, packaging and identification (Article 18); compliance (Article 34); liability and redress (Article 27); monitoring and reporting (Article 33); secretariat (Article 31.3).

211. It is noteworthy to highlight that COP-MOP/1 approved the transition from the pilot phase of the BCH developed during the interim period to the fully operational phase. It also established a Compliance Committee composed of 15 experts nominated by Parties to the Protocol who will be acting in their individual capacity. With regard to liability and redress, it established an open-ended ad hoc working group of legal and technical experts in the context of the Protocol to elaborate international rules and procedures regarding liability and redress for damage resulting from transboundary movements of LMOs. The working group is expected to complete its work in 2007.

212. The meeting also adopted rules of procedure for meetings of the COP-MOP and agreed on a medium-term programme of work for the COP-MOP (from its second to its fifth meetings), according to which the second and third meetings would be held on an annual basis, with a decision on subsequent periodicity of meetings to be taken at a later stage. Pursuant to this, it was decided that the second meeting of COP-MOP will be held in the second quarter of 2005 at a venue and date to be specified by the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Bureau.

213. COP-MOP/1 also considered other issues that may be necessary for the effective implementation of the Protocol, including the question of guidance on transboundary movements of LMOs between Parties and non-Parties to the Protocol. It also made a recommendation to the COP on guidance to the financial mechanism, which focused in particular on eligibility criteria for funding and on the need to support capacity building.

214. The report and decisions adopted by COP-MOP/1 are contained in document UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/1/15 which will be made available to all Governments and will also be accessible on the website of the Secretariat.

215. A Joint meeting of the Bureau of COP and the Bureau of ICCP was held on 22 February 2004 to consider organization and conduct of the first meeting of COP-MOP.

216. Several side events were held during the week of the meeting of COP-MOP/1, focusing mainly on some of the topics on the agenda of the meeting, in particular capacity-building; information sharing; handling, transport, packaging and identification; and, liability and redress. In this context, the Secretariat organized a training workshop for the national BCH focal points to familiarize them with the use of the central portal of the BCH especially with regard to entering and retrieving information.

217. During the reporting period, the Secretariat continued also to be actively involved in a number of outreach and capacity-building activities aimed at promoting/assisting the implementation of the Protocol, including participations in a number of sub-regional workshops organized under the UNEP-GEF projects on Development/Implementation of National Biosafety Frameworks.

218. The pace of ratification/accession of the Protocol continued to gather momentum. As of 31 March 2004, 90 Parties to the CBD had acceded to or ratified the Protocol. The list of these Parties is available on the website of the Secretariat and is updated each time the Secretariat is notified by the Depositary of a new deposit of instrument of ratification/accession.

IMPLEMENTATION AND OUTREACH

DECISION VI/16 ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL RESOURCES

219. During the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the Secretariat attended the side events: Investments in biodiversity: Market mechanisms to engage private sector companies in conservation, organized by The Katoomba Group; Business and Biodiversity, organized by Institute of Advanced Studies of the United Nations University, and Sustainably Financing Protected Areas, organized by Wildlife Conservation Society.

220. The Secretariat responded to requests concerning funding/information from the following Parties:

- Cameroon: building scientific and legal skills for evaluating the health and environmental issues surrounding imports of living modified organisms
- Colombia: project involving a butterflies species (*Protesilaus glaucoalaus*)
- Ethiopia: project to build a National Insect Reference Collection Center
- Nigeria: training programme concerning food exportation
- India: financially support graduate studies in UK- Sheffield University, environment
- India: biodiversity related research programmes
- India: Coimbatore Zoological Park and Conservation Center (CZPCC)
- Indonesia: Funding of biodiversity assessment project
- Romania (The Kogayion Asociation): environmental protection and ecotourism in Vanturarita-Buila mountain
- Russian Federation: Sources of possible cofinancing of the Belarusian CBD CHM activities
- Switzerland: research on functional biodiversity and ecosystem processes in marine and freshwater ecosystems, including indicators of ecosystem sustainability
- United Kingdom: Liverpool John Moores University Applied Zoology student seeking sponsorship for a ten-week expedition to Nicaragua
- Zimbabwe: project proposal dealing with the preservation of large carnivore biodiversity in Southern Africa.

221. The Secretariat continued to maintain the Interactive Info-Bulletin on Financing for Biological Diversity, and continued its effort to compile “Biodiversity-related projects” and “Guide to sources of international assistance for biological diversity”.

222. The Secretariat prepared a table of COP-7 and COP/MOP1 decisions with relevance to funding institutions and notifications will be soon sent out once the final text of these decisions become available.

223. The Secretariat took note of the Workshop on Financing Dams and Sustainable Development being organized by Institution of Civil Engineers and United Nations Environment Programme/ Dams and Development Project, to be held from 21 - 22 April 2004 in London. It was also noted that the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) conducted a study on the necessity of Proposed Working Group on Financial Resources under the Convention. Such a Working Group could, for example, address the financial implications of the 2010 target, but Article 8(m) should be a priority agenda item.

DECISION VI/17 FINANCIAL MECHANISM UNDER THE CONVENTION

224. During the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the Secretariat attended a number of GEF workshops, including: Catalyzing the sustainability of protected area systems; and Monitoring and Evaluation Unit biodiversity programme study.

225. The Secretariat responded to requests concerning application to GEF for financial support on public awareness. Several Parties expressed interest in joining the UNEP/GEF biosafety project on Development of National Biosafety Frameworks.

226. The Secretariat prepared a table of COP-7 and COP/MOP1 decisions with relevance to GEF and notification will be soon sent out once the Rapporteur of the Conference approves the final text

227. The Secretariat assessed the GEF Biodiversity Operational Programmes in Relation to Land Degradation, and provided substantive inputs to the liaison group meeting between the three Rio conventions and the Global Environment Facility.

228. During the reporting period, the GEF Secretariat circulated the following document for Council approval: Action Plan to Respond to Recommendations for Improving GEF's performance, and the draft Terms of Reference for the Third Overall Performance Study (OPS3) which was not approved by the Council due to several objections. The Secretariat participated in the Survey: Improving the GEF's communication and outreach strategy.

229. GEF Biodiversity Programme Study 2004 (BPS2004): The Secretariat suggested to the GEF Monitoring and Evaluation Unit that views should be sought from Parties and Governments, and meanwhile, provided a compilation of all GEF-related provisions of decisions from all the meetings of the Conference of the Parties, in order to spread the Convention's messages throughout the GEF process.

230. The Secretariat received and reviewed the enabling activity proposals from the following Parties:
Albania National Capacity Self-Assessment
Barbados: PDF-A National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management
Belize: National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management
Czech Republic: Assessment of Capacity-building Needs: Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit-sharing, Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity Important for Agriculture, Forestry and Research
Comoros: Capacity Needs Assessment for the implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategy and support to the Clearing House Mechanism

Dominica: National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management

Grenada: National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management

Guinea-Bissau: National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management

Honduras: Assessment of Capacity Building Needs and Country Specific Priorities for the Implementation of the Action Plan for the National Strategy on Biodiversity

Honduras: National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management

Lesotho: National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management

Lithuania: National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management

Micronesia: National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management

Niue: National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environment Management

Panama: National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management

Papua New Guinea: National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management

Samoa: National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environment Management

Sebia: National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management

Serbia Montenegro: Biodiversity Strategy, Action Plan and National Report

South Africa: National Capacity Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management
National Capacity Self-Assessment

Sierra Leone : NCSA for Global Environmental Management

St. Kitts: National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management

St. Lucia: National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management

Sudan: National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management

Syria: National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management

Tajikistan: Assessment of capacity building needs and country specific priorities in biodiversity

Tuvalu: National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management

Vanuatu: National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management

231. The secretariat received and reviewed the following PDF proposals or pipeline entry from the following Parties:

Africa: Capacity-building programme for the Implementation of the Action Plan for the Environment Initiative of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) (Concept)

Antigua & Barbuda: Implementation of a Sustainable Island Resource Management Mechanism

Belarus: Conservation and sustainable management of Polesie through integration of globally important biodiversity concerns into main areas of economic activity at key sites (PDF B)

Brazil: Conservation of the Brazilian Coastal Atlantic Rainforest in Guaraquecaba: Strengthening of collaborative management regimes in a mosaic of protected areas (PDF A)

China: Conserving and Sustainably Utilizing Biodiversity in China (Pipeline 15)

Global: Building Capacity in Invasive Alien Species Prevention and Management (Concept)

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Global: Conservation and Sustainable Management of Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) (PDF B)

Global: Conservation and Sustainable use of cultivated and wild tropical fruit diversity: promoting sustainable livelihoods, food security and ecosystem health (PDF B)

Global: Financial Sustainability for National Systems of Protected Areas (Pipeline 15)

Global: Implementing the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation: Development and Application of Best Practices for Identifying and Conserving Threatened Plant Species and Important Plant Areas (Concept)

Global: Removal of Barriers to the Long-Term Management and Conservation of Ecosystems that Constitute the SE Pacific Marine Biodiversity Corridor (Concept)

Global: Strengthening Capacity to Generate, Disseminate and Adopt Good Practices in BD Conservation (Pipeline 15)

Regional Africa: Botanical and Zoological Taxonomic Networks in Eastern Africa: Linking Conservation to Taxonomy (BOZONET)" (PDF B)

Regional Asia: ASEAN Network for Protected Area Capacity Development (ANPAC) (Pipeline 15)

Slovakia: Integration of Ecosystem Management Principles and Practices into Land and Water Management of Slovakia's Eastern Lowlands (PDF A)

Sri Lanka: Strengthening Partnerships for Effective Control of Invasive Alien Species in Sri Lanka (SPECIEs) (PDF A)

232. The Secretariat received and reviewed the following medium-sized project proposals from the following Parties:

Georgia: Recovery, Conservation, and Sustainable Use of Georgia's Agrobiodiversity

Indonesia: Lambusango Forest Conservation, Sulawesi

Liberia: OP3-Establishing the Basis for Biodiversity Conservation at Sapo National Park and in South-East

233. The Secretariat received and reviewed the following full project proposals from the following Parties:

Cambodia: Establishing Conservation Areas Landscape Management(CALM) in the Northern Plains

Chad: Community Based Integrated Ecosystem Management, a component of Chad's Rural Development Support Plan

Kenya: Western Kenya Integrated Ecosystem Management Project

Regional (Guatemala, Belize, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama): Integrated Ecosystem Management in Indigenous Communities

Regional Africa: Conservation of Transboundary Biodiversity in the Minkébé-Odzala-Dja Inter-zone in Gabon, Congo, and Cameroon

Russia: Conservation of wetland biodiversity in the Lower Volga region

Uruguay: Integrated Natural Resources and Biodiversity Management

234. The GEF Executive Operational Committee met on 17 February 2004, and reviewed the Inter-sessional work programme for February 2004 in which the following projects have in general been approved by the GEF Council:

Bulgaria: Forest Development Project (World Bank)

Global: Small Grants Programme (Second Operational Phase - Year 6) (UNDP)

Guinea: Coastal Marine and Biodiversity Management (World Bank)

Malaysia: Conserving Marine Biodiversity through Enhanced Marine Park Management and Inclusive Sustainable Development (UNDP)

Regional (Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Granadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela): Building the Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network (IABIN) (World Bank)
Regional (Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines): OECS Protected Areas and Associated Sustainable Livelihoods (World Bank)
Regional (Indonesia, Philippines): Marine Aquarium Market Transformation Initiative (MAMTI) (World Bank/IFC)
Russian Federation: Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in the Altai-Sayan Mountain Eco-region (UNDP)
Senegal: Integrated Marine and Coastal Resource Management (World Bank)
Tajikistan: Community Watershed Development (World Bank)

235. Other full projects that were not included in the inter-sessional work programme were:
Cameroon: Promoting Community-Based Conservation of globally significant biodiversity in priority forest sites within the Cameroon Mountain Range
Kenya: Western Kenya Integrated Ecosystem Management

DECISION VI/18 SCIENTIFIC TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND THE CLEARING HOUSE MECHANISM

Clearing-house Mechanism

236. During the period under review the CHM participated in the following meetings and undertook the following activities:

- assisted in the servicing of the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, from 9 to 20 February 2004;
- organization of an Asia and Pacific regional meeting on the Clearing-House Mechanism, tentatively to be held in Tehran, Iran on April 2004;
- development of a web-based mechanism to search recommendations made by the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol (see: <http://www.biodiv.org/convention/search.aspx>);
- development of an electronic forum on island biodiversity;
- development of an electronic library online catalogue;
- continued participation in the development of the Pilot Phase of the Biosafety Clearing-House, in response to Article 20(1) of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

VI/19 COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS

237. As part of the implementation of the media and outreach strategy for the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties and the Conference of the Parties serving as the first meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Biosafety, the Secretariat developed a Press Room on the CBD Web Site. This activity included:

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- Preparation of background documents for posting on Web site;
- Obtaining and editing material on side events for posting
- Planning content, procedures to obtain daily briefings, and posting/editing procedures for Web site Press Room.

238. Press Releases and other relevant documents were prepared and distributed during the period prior to opening of the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties. Media registration was ongoing during this period. Preparation and distribution of press releases was done from the CBD Secretariat in coordination with the on-site Press Officer.

239. During the three-week meeting period, the focus of the media and outreach strategy was on the maintaining of the content and timeliness of the Press Rooms and related Website pages. Daily activities included review, editing and pre-posting refinements for daily briefings and other material sent from Kuala Lumpur for posting on the Web site Press Rooms throughout the meeting period.

240. With respect to the celebration of International Biological Diversity Day (IBD), the preparation of the IBD Poster is underway and will be distributed to the Parties at the beginning of May 2004. In addition, a series of activities to mark the day by the Secretariat have been proposed and are being negotiated with relevant institutions in Montreal. A list of suggestions for Parties to consider in celebrating the day has been prepared and will be distributed to Parties. This list also includes links to sites where successful models may be found. A redesign of the content of the IBD Web pages has been completed.

241. The development of a kids' Web site on biodiversity issues continues. Implementation of the full concept is dependent on the redesign of other aspects of the CBD Web site, however it is envisaged that initial pages will be published by 22 May 2004 (IBD). With pages reserved for teachers and teaching tools, it is designed to serve as a model for national focal points and other international organizations Secretariat staff are researching relevant links to be published on this site.

242. Final negotiations with selected schools for the production of the new media "Ecoprint.ca" Web-based documentary on the school outreach programme are almost complete. It is hoped to have a final "rough cut" for preliminary screening on IBD.

243. The development of the content for the CEPA Portal for the CBD Web site continues.

244. A highly original concept for the CBD 10th anniversary publication has been developed and the compilation of content for the publication is underway including sending requests to external authors for their contributions. An excerpt is expected to be ready for IBD and the complete publication will be published and distributed before September 2004.

245. The Secretariat also continues to respond to many requests to review publications and documents submitted for publication, requests for information on a wide range of biodiversity and CBD-related topics and to distribute specific information material in the different UN languages.

DECISION VI/25 and VII/25 NATIONAL REPORTING

246. By the end of March 2004, the Secretariat had received a total of 106 second national reports, 39 thematic reports on mountain ecosystems, 54 thematic reports on protected areas and 26 thematic reports on transfer of technology and technology cooperation.

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247. In addition, as of March 31, 2004 the Secretariat had also received 137 first national reports and 106 Parties had submitted their national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

248. As requested, the Executive Secretary prepared an analysis of information contained in the second national reports and syntheses of information contained in the above-mentioned thematic reports to assist with the elaboration of relevant issues on the agenda of the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties. These documents include UNEP/CBD/COP/7/17/Add.3, UNEP/CBD/COP/7/INF.2, UNEP/CBD/COP/INF.6, UNEP/CBD/COP/7/INF.8, and UNEP/CBD/COP/7/INF.9.

249. Also as requested, the Executive Secretary prepared the draft guidelines for the third national report for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting. The draft guidelines were contained in the annex to the document UNEP/CBD/COP/7/Add.2.

250. As part of the effort to streamline and harmonize reporting under biodiversity-related conventions, the Secretariat provided in January 2004 some comments on a synoptic report prepared by UNEP-WCMC on synergies and harmonization among biodiversity-related conventions.

251. At its seventh meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopted decision VII/25 (National Reporting) after having considered the draft guidelines for the third national report as well as the analysis of information contained in the second national reports and some thematic reports. The decision is divided into two parts: (a) National Reporting; (b) Guidelines for the third national report.

252. While endorsing the guidelines for the third national report, the Conference of the Parties, in paragraphs 2 and 3 of decision VII/25, requested the Executive Secretary to further develop the guidelines for the third national report by incorporating the views expressed by Parties at COP-7 and questions arising from COP-7 decisions, and to distribute the finalized guidelines no later than July 2004.

253. Work is ongoing on the further development of the guidelines for the third national report, with consideration given to specific guidance contained in decision VII/25 as well as relevant paragraphs in other decisions adopted at COP-7.

ANNEX I

STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREED ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

I Personnel Arrangements

1. During the reporting period, the Secretariat had 33 regularized Professional staff members and 25 regularized General Service staff members funded from the core budget. Additionally, 5 professional posts and 5 General Service posts were funded from other sources. For more information, please refer to the attached staff list and organigram (Appendix 1 and Annex II respectively).

2. The seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties approved an additional two General Service posts to be funded from the core budget for the 2005-2006 biennium.

II Contributions and Funds

3. During the first quarter of 2004, five new pledges of additional voluntary funds in support of approved activities under the Convention (**BE Trust Fund**) were made. New pledges were received from Canada, the Netherlands, Sweden, Shell and ICMM. The Governments of Canada and the Netherlands pledged funds for the additional approved activities under the Convention, and the Government of Sweden, Shell and ICMM pledged funds for the publication on Key Biodiversity Issues for Protected Areas.

4. For 2004 a total of US\$590,454 has been pledged to the BE Trust Fund, of which US\$338,778 or 57.4% has been collected as at 31 March 2004. Full details of the pledges and contributions to the BE Trust Fund are reflected in Annex III.

5. With regard to the General Trust Fund for the Convention (**BY Trust Fund**), as at 31 March 2004 the total unpaid pledges to the BY Trust Fund for 2003 and prior years amounted to US\$908,811. The total amount pledged for the BY Trust Fund in 2004 is US\$7,741,394. Of this amount, US\$3,562,886 or 46% has been received. Additionally, US\$1,000,000 has been pledged as additional contributions to the BY Trust Fund, and US\$340,954 has been collected in 2004 for prior years. Total unpaid pledges to the BY Trust Fund for 2004 amounts to US\$4,178,508. Total unpaid pledges for 2004 and prior years are therefore US\$5,087,319. Full details of the pledges and contributions to the BY Trust Fund are reflected in Annex V.

6. As at 31 March 2004 a total of US\$88,580 was pledged for 2004 as additional voluntary contributions to facilitate the Participation of Parties in the Convention process (**BZ Trust Fund**). This sum consists of pledges from Canada (\$28,580) and Japan (\$60,000).

7. As at 31 March 2004, contributions to the BZ Trust Fund in 2004 amounted to US\$88,580 or 100% of the total pledged for 2004. Additionally, \$187,152 was collected for prior years. A total of US\$148,493 remains outstanding for the BZ Trust Fund for 2004 and prior years. Full details of the pledges and contributions to the BZ Trust Fund are reflected in Annex IV.

8. The seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties approved a budget of US\$10,497,800 for 2005 and US\$10,918,500 for 2006 for the core budget (BY Trust Fund) for the 2005-2006 biennium.

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III Accounting and Reporting

Status of Expenditure

9. COP-6 approved a budget of US\$9,924,200 for the BY Trust Fund for 2004. As at 31 March 2004, a total of US\$4,243,742 has so far been spent or committed. This represents 42.7% of the approved amount.

Reimbursement for Services provided to the Secretariat

10. At present eight UNEP staff members, the Chief, Fund Management and Administration, the Administrative Officer, the Finance Officer, the Senior Finance Assistant, the Finance Assistant, the Personnel Assistant, the Conference Assistant and the Information Assistant are funded from the programme support funds (PSC).

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Appendix 1
STAFFING TABLE of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
1 January – 31 March 2004

Post #	Level	Title	PROFESSIONAL STAFF
1101	ASG	Executive Secretary	Mr. H. Zedan (Regularized)
1102	D1	Principal Officer (SEL)	Mr. O. Jalbert (Regularized)
1103	D1	Principal Officer (STTM)	Mr. K. Mulongoy (Regularized)
1104	P5	Senior Programme Officer (Biosafety)	Ms. C. Sendashonga (Regularized)
1105	D1	Principal Officer (I&O)	Mr. A. Nogueira (Regularized)
1106	P4	Chief, Fund & Admin. (RMCS)	Ms. M. Rattray-Huish- (Regularized) (Post funded by UNEP)
1107	P4	Financial Resources & Instruments. PO (I&O)	Mr. Y. Xiang (Regularized)
1108	P4	PO Legal Advice and Support (SEL)	Mr. D.Ogolla (Regularized)
1109	P4	Economist (SEL)	Mr. M. Lehmann (Regularized)
1110	P4	PO Conservation Ecology (STTM)	Mr. M. Guariguata (Regularized)
1113	P4	PO, Clearing House Mechanism (I&O)	Mr. M. Silva (Regularized)
1114	P4	Special Assistant to the ES. (EDM)	Ms. M. Soliman (Regularized)
1115	P4	PO, Indigenous Knowledge (SEL)	Vacant (Post advertised)
1116	P5	PO. Reports & Reviews (I&O)	Mr. K. Kakuyo (Regularized)
1117	P3	Documentation Officer (I&O)	Vacant (Post advertised)
1118	P3	Meetings Services Officer (RMCS)	Mr. A. Yesli (Regularized)
1119	P3	Information Officer (I&O)	Vacant (Post Advertised)
1120	P3	Internet & Elect. Communications (I&O)	Mr. O. De Munck (Regularized)
1121	P4	PO, Jakarta Mandate (STTM)	Ms. M. Vierros (Regularized)
1122	P3	PO, Website Officer (I&O)	Mr. D. Ainsworth (Regularized)
1124	P3	Administrative Officer (RMCS)	Ms. N. Patel (Regularized) (Post funded by UNEP)
1126	P3	Environmental Affairs Officer (Biosafety)	Mr. E. Tamale (Regularized)
1127	P3	Legal Affairs Officer (Biosafety)	Mr. W. Damena (Regularized)
1128	P2	Associate Computer Systems Officer (I&O)	Mr. Q. Nguyen (Regularized)
1130	L2	JPO, (BS)	Ms. C. Mathiesen (Regularized) (Post funded by Government of Denmark)
1131	P4	PO, Inland Waters (STTM)	Mr. D. Coates (Regularized)
1132	P4	PO, Scientific & Technical Assessments (STTM)	Mr. R. Hoft (Regularized)

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Post #	Level	Title	PROFESSIONAL STAFF
1133	P3	PO, Access & Benefit Sharing (SEL)	Ms. V. Normand (Regularized)
1134	P3	PO, Scientific, Technical Information (Biosafety)	Ms. K. Galloway-McLean (Regularized)
1135	P5	Editor (RMCS)	Mr. J. Fry (Regularized)
1136	P2	Associate Finance Officer (RMCS)	Ms. T.C. Fon Sing (Regularized) (Post funded by UNEP)
1137	P4	Taxonomy, PO (STTM)	Ms. L. Rogo (Regularized)
1139	L2	JPO, Forest (STTM)	Ms. C. Morosi (Regularized) (Post funded by Government of Italy)
1141	P4	PO, Dry and Sub-humid lands (STTM)	Ms. J. Zeidler (Regularized)
1142	P3	PO, Reports (I&O)	Mr. L. Cai (Regularized)
1143	P3	PO, Sustainable Use and Tourism (SEL)	Ms. P. Deda (Regularized)
1144	P4	PO, Legal & Policy Affairs (Biosafety)	Ms. X. Wang (Regularized)
1145	P3	PO, Scientific Assessments (Biosafety)	Mr. R. Hill (Regularized)
1146	P5	SPO, Interagency & Programme Coordination (EDM)	Mr. D. Cooper (Regularized)
1147	P5	SPO, Forest Biodiversity (STTM)	Mr. G. Van Tol (Regularized) (Post funded by Government of the Netherlands)
1148	P4	PO, <i>In-situ</i> and <i>ex-situ</i> conservation (STTM)	Mr. V. Gidda (Regularized)
1149	P3	Computer Information Systems Officer, (I&O)	Mr. P. LeBlond (Regularized)

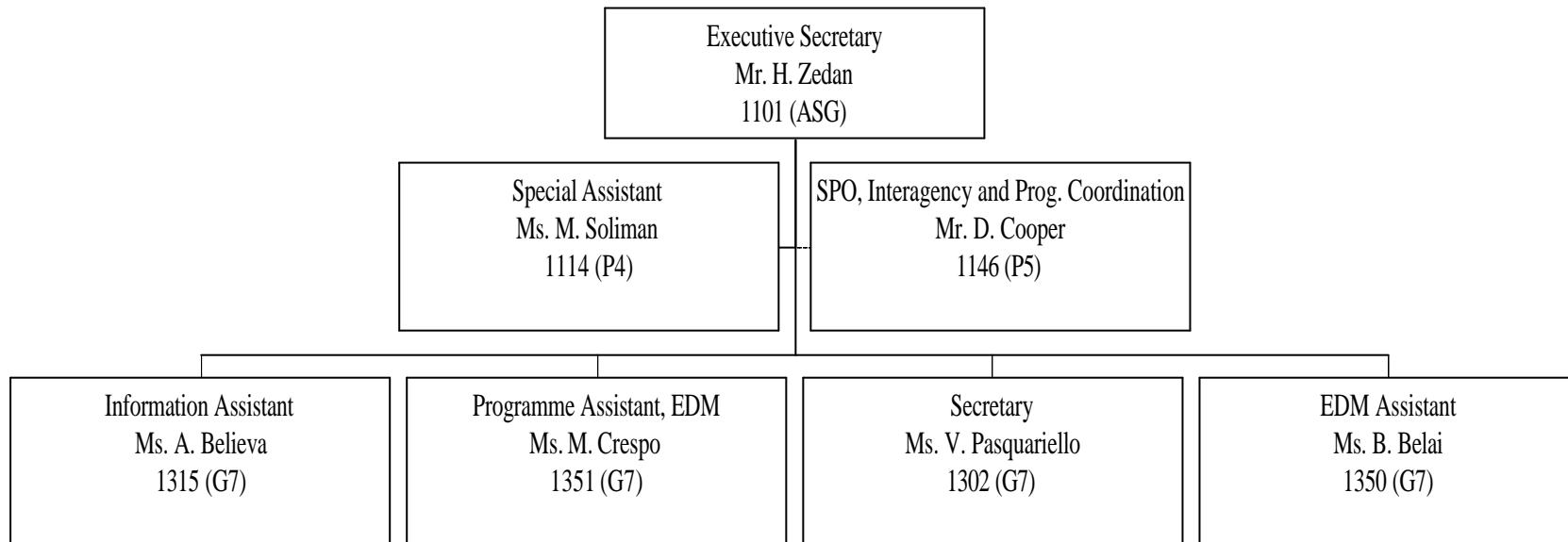
Post #	Level	Title	GENERAL SERVICE STAFF
1301	G8	Finance Assistant (RMCS)	Mr. M. Reyes (Regularized) (Post funded by UNEP)
1302	G7	Senior Secretary to the Executive Secretary (EDM)	Ms. V. Pasquariello (Regularized)
1303	G6	Secretary (SEL)	Ms. F. Velarde (Regularized)
1304	G7	Programme Assistant - (STTM)	Mr. D. Hamel (Regularized)
1305	G7	Programme Assistant - (STTM)	Ms. I. Anderson (Regularized)
1306	G7	Programme Assistant - (I&O)	Ms. S. Meehan (Regularized)
1307	G7	Programme Assistant - (Biosafety)	Ms. D. Stepic (Regularized)
1308	G7	Programme Assistant - (I&O)	Ms. M. Chiasson (Regularized)
1309	G7	Programme Assistant - (SEL)	Vacant (Post adveritised)
1310	G6	Administrative Assistant - (RMCS)	Ms. C. Risch (Regularized). Post funded by

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			UNEP
1311	G7	Travel Assistant - (RMCS)	Ms. R. Rabbath (Regularized)
Post #	Level	Title	GENERAL SERVICE STAFF
1312	G7	Personnel Assistant (RMCS)	Ms. J. Martinez (Regularized) (post funded by UNEP)
1313	G6	Secretary - (STTM)	Ms. V. Allain (Regularized)
1314	G6	Secretary - (I&O)	Ms. A. Vincent (Regularized)
1315	G7	Information Assistant (EDM)	Ms. A. Beliaeva (Regularized)
1316	G7	Computer Operations Assistant (I&O)	Mr. V. Gopez (Regularized)
1317	G5	Receptionist (RMCS)	Ms. L. Boutin (Regularized)
1318	G4	Messenger/Clerk (RMCS)	Mr. R. Bellido (Regularized)
1319	G6	Secretary (Biosafety)	Ms. J. Huppé (Regularized)
1329	G7	Programme Assistant, CHM (I&O)	Mr. H. Perea (Regularized)
1331	G7	Programme Assistant (SEL)	Ms. G. Dosen (Regularized)
1332	G5	Information Assistant - (CS/I&O)	Ms. M. Harrison (Regularized)
1334	G5	Fund Mgmt Assistant - (RMCS)	Ms. L. Ali (Regularized). Post funded by UNEP
1337	G5	Conference Assistant – (RMCS)	Ms. T. Zavarzina (Regularized). Post funded by UNEP
1350	GS	EDM Assistant – (EDM)	Ms. B. Belai (Regularized)
1351	G7	Programme Assistant – (EDM)	Ms. M. Crespo (Regularized)
1352	G7	Programme Assistant – (I&O)	Ms. F. D'Amico (Regularized)
1353	G7	Programme Assistant – (Biosafety)	Ms. M. Ocampo (Regularized)
1354	G7	Programme Assistant – Liability, Redress & Sustainable Tourism (SEL)	Ms. R. Rubian (Regularized)
1355	G7	Editorial Assistant (RMCS)	Ms. V. Lefebvre (Regularized)
1356	G6	Travel Assistant – (RMCS)	Ms. N. Al Saheb (Regularized)

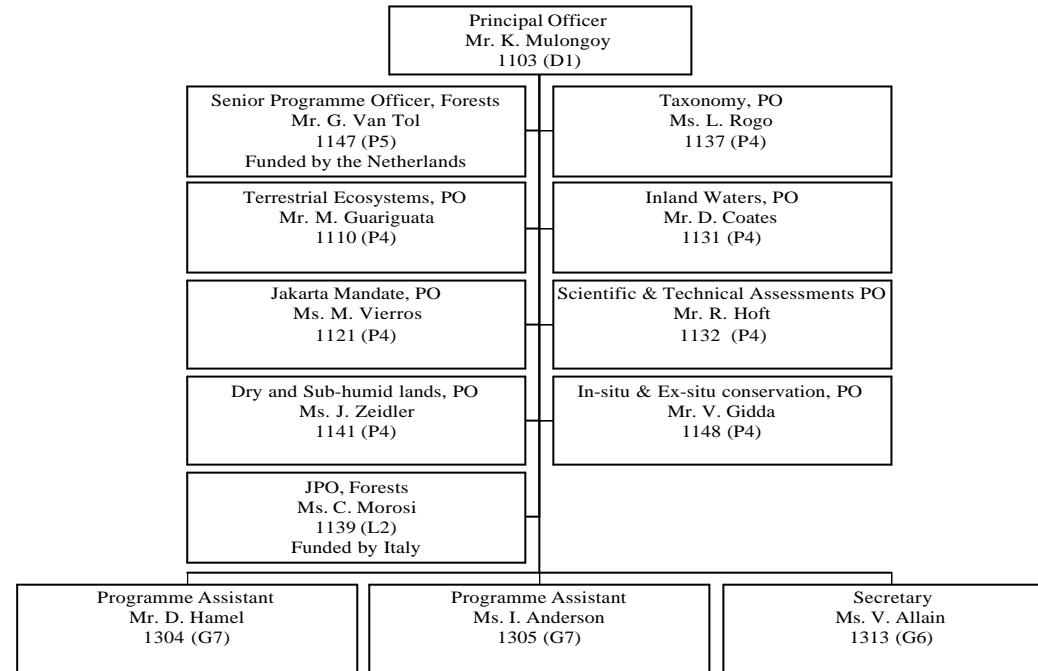
Annex II

Executive Direction, Management & Inter-governmental Affairs



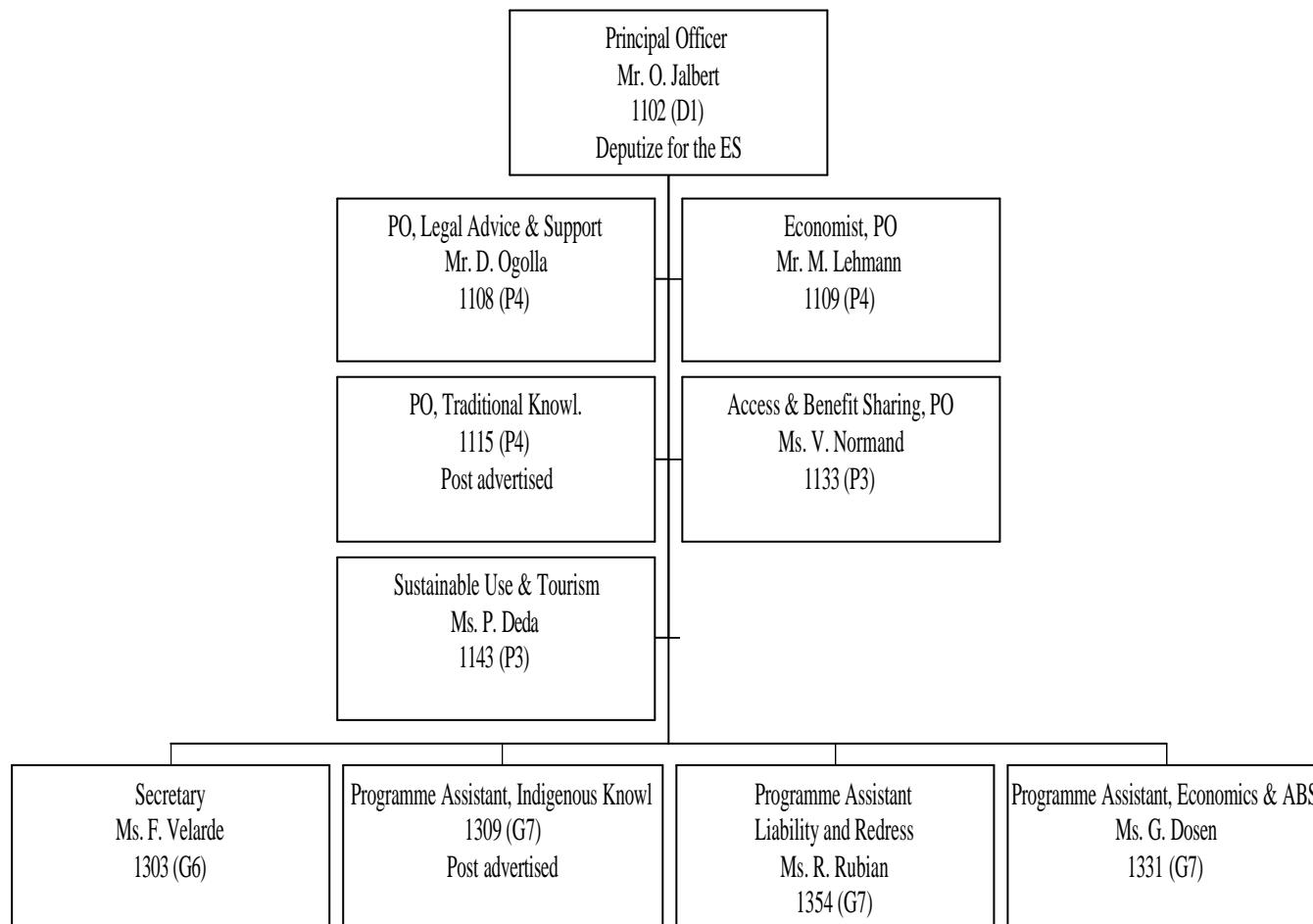
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Scientific, Technical & Technological Matters



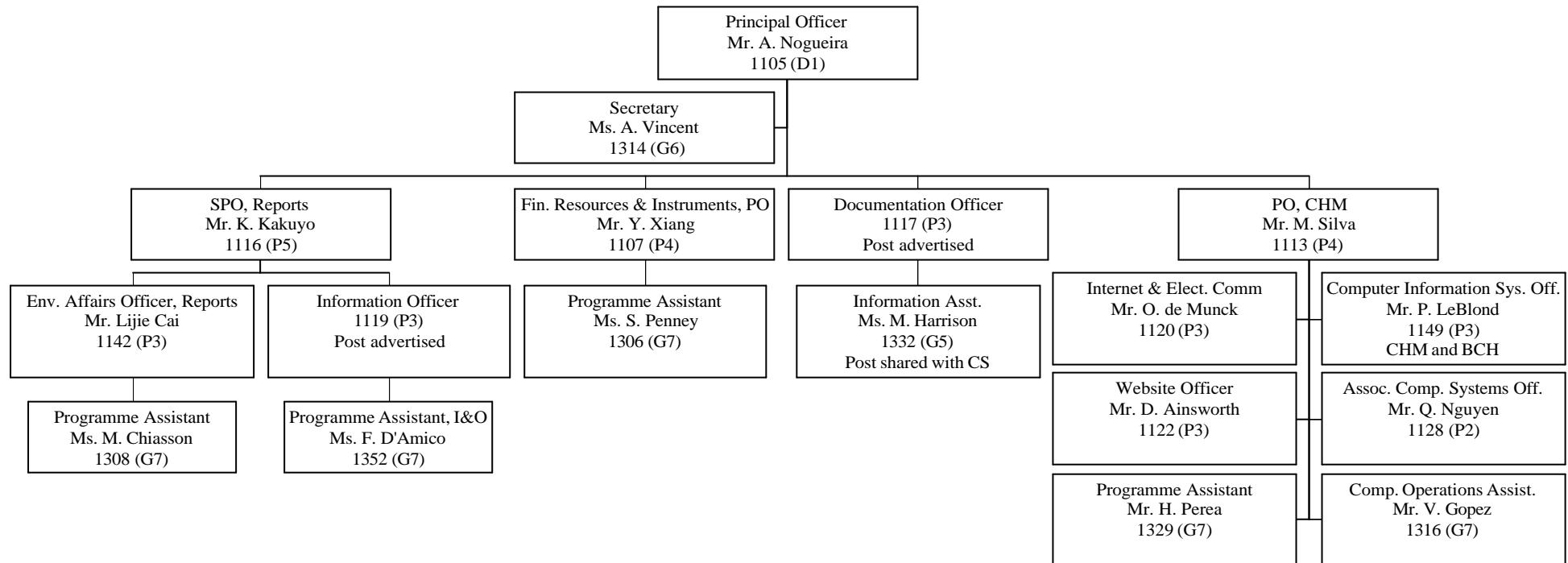
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Social, Economic and Legal Matters



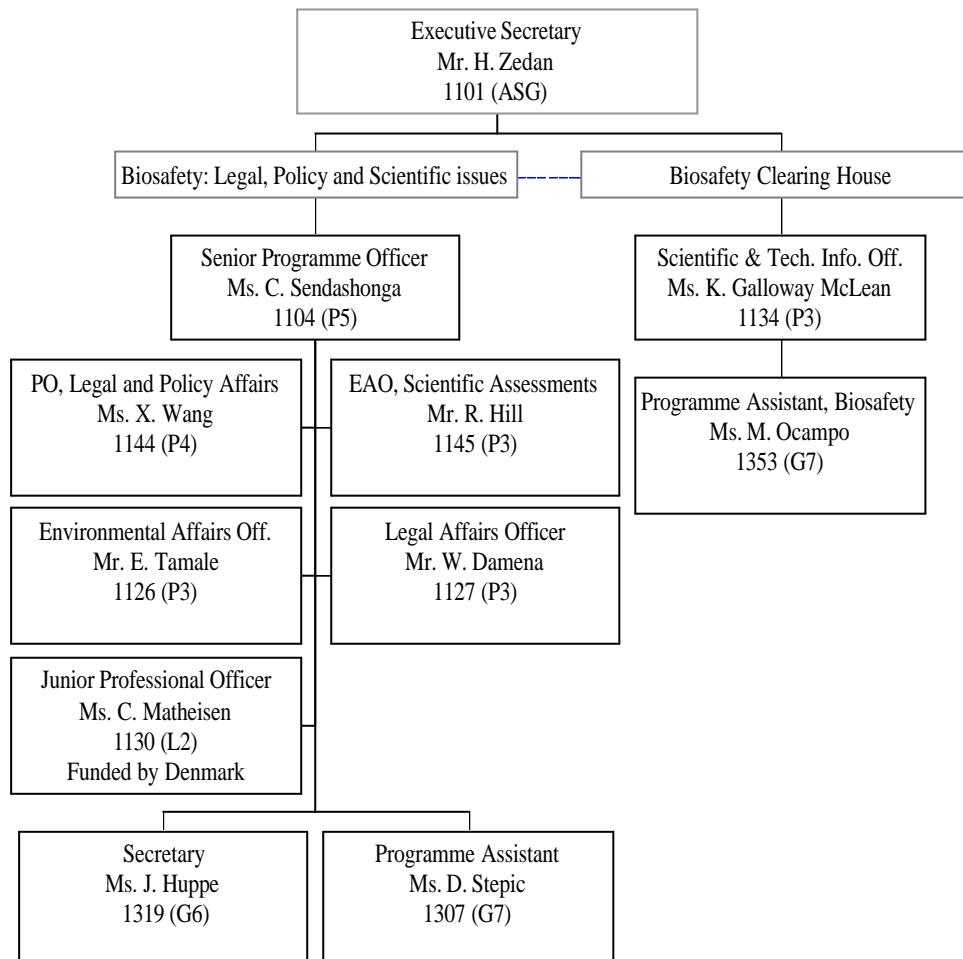
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Implementation & Outreach



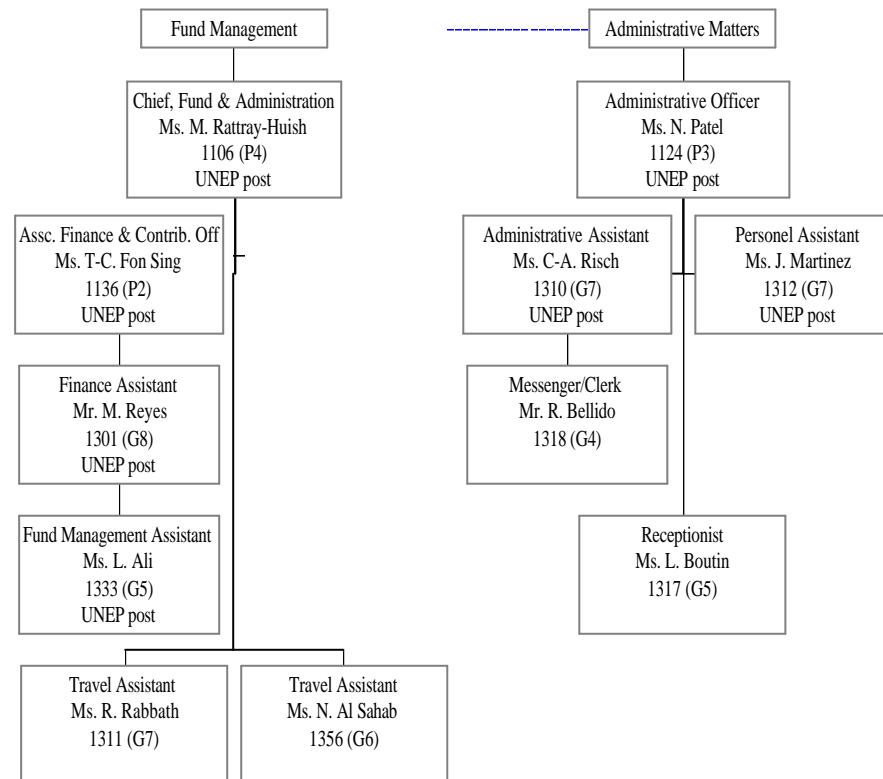
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Biosafety Protocol



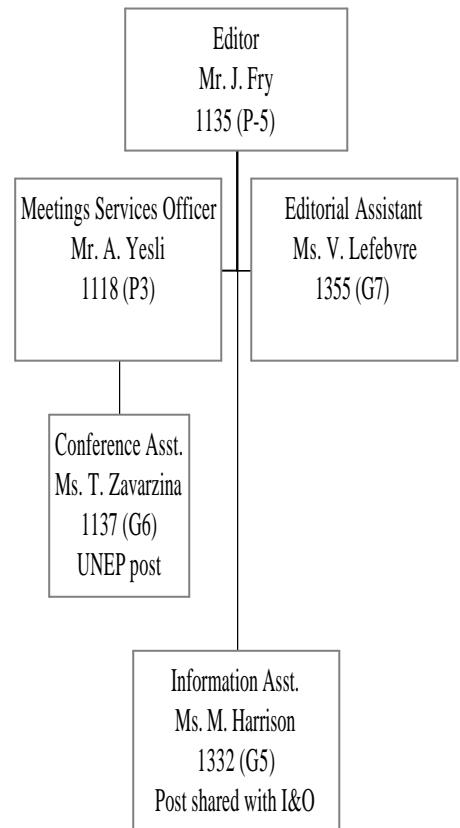
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Resource Management



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Conference Services



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ANNEX III

GENERAL TRUST FUND FOR ADDITIONAL VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS IN SUPPORT OF APPROVED ACTIVITIES UNDER
THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (BE)
Status of Contribution as at 31 March 2004 (in United States dollars)

COUNTRIES	Unpaid Pledges as at 31.12.03	Adjustments	Pledges for 2004	Collections in 2004 for prior years	Collections in 2004 for 2004 & futures yrs	Unpaid pledges for 2004 & prior years
Canada	21,592			1/		21,592
Canada	15,924			2/		15,924
Canada			74,118	17/	74,118	0
Denmark	2,301			3/		2,301
EEC	5,954			4/		5,954
France	25,000			5/		25,000
Germany	20,882			6/		20,882
ICMM			2,980	13/	2,980	0
Netherlands	20			7/		20
Netherlands			499,376	15/	247,700	251,676
Norway	10,428			8/		10,428
Shell			7,000	16/	7,000	0
Spain	25,000			9/		25,000
Sweden	13,287			10/		13,287
Sweden			6,980	14/	6,980	0
USA	10,000			11/		10,000
USA	50,000			12/		50,000
Total	200,388	0	590,454	0	338,778	452,064

1/Canada pledged Cdn\$ 125,000 for meetings convened under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

2/Canada pledged Cdn\$ 25,000 towards the preparation of the Composite Report on Traditional Knowledge

3/Denmark pledge in support for Open-ended Meeting of Experts on Capacity building, Havana, Cuba, 11-13 July 2001

- 4/EEC pledged EUR 30,000 towards the Workshop on Liability & Redress - Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, Rome, Italy 2-4 December 2002
5/France pledged US\$ 25,000 for the Technical Expert Group Meeting on Article 18.2(b) and (c), Montreal, Canada, 13-15 March 2002
6/Germany pledged for the Ad Hoc Working Group on Access & Benefits Sharing, Bonn, Germany, 22-26 October 2001
7/Netherlands pledged US\$ 119,896 for the Workshop on Forest Biological Diversity, Accra, Ghana 28-30 January 2002
8/Norway pledged US\$ 100,000 for the 4th Workshop on Sustainable Use of Biological Resources, Addis Ababa, 6-8 May 2003
9/Spain pledged US\$ 25,000 for Capacity Building Experts Meeting on the Biosafety Protocol, Havana, Cuba, 11-13 July 2001
10/Sweden pledged SEK 450,000 towards the cost of a Programme Officer for the Global Taxonomy Initiative in 2002
11/USA pledged US\$ 10,000 for GISP meeting on Global Invasive Species
12/USA pledged US\$ 50,000 for the Technical Expert Meeting on Art 18.2(a), Montreal, Canada, 18-20 March 2002
13/ ICMM pledged US\$ 2,980 towards the Publication on Protected Areas
14/ Sweden pledged US\$ 6,980 towards the Publication on Key Biodiversity Issues for Protected Areas
15/Netherlands pledged Euros 400,000 regarding the Letter of Intent for the period 2004
16/ Shell pledged US\$ 7,000 towards the Publication on Key Biodiversity Issues for Protected Areas
17/Canada pledged Cdn\$ 100,000 for Approved Activities, as per Agreement ESR021

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ANNEX IV

**GENERAL TRUST FUND FOR ADDITIONAL VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO FACILITATE THE PARTICIPATION OF
PARTIES IN THE PROCESS OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (BZ)**

Status as at 31 March 2004 (in United States dollars)

COUNTRIES	Unpaid Pledges as at 31.12.03	Adjustments	Pledges for 2004	Collections in 2004 for prior years	Collections in 2004 for 2004 & fut yrs	Unpaid pledges for 2004 & prior years
Canada			8/	28,580		28,580 0
Canada	7,634		3/			7,634
Denmark	40,000		1/			40,000
Denmark	51,049		6/		51,049	0
EEC	9,984		2/			9,984
Finland	76,291		4/			76,291
Germany	14,584		5/			14,584
Japan			9/	30,000		30,000 0
Japan			10/	30,000		30,000 0
United Kingdom	136,103		7/		136,103	0
Total	335,645	0		88,580	187,152	88,580 148,493

1/Denmark pledged for the support of participants from Central and Eastern European countries to CBD meetings

2/EEC pledged Euro 50,000 for the COP-6 and ICCP-3 Meetings in the Hague, the Netherlands on 7-26 May 2002

3/Canada pledged Cdn\$ 10,000 towards the participation of Delegates to the Article 8(j) Meeting, Montreal, Canada, 8-12 December 2003

4/Finland pledged EUR 65,000 towards the COP-7 and COP/MOP-1 meetings, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 9-27 February 2004

5/Germany pledged EUR 25,550 towards the COP-7 Meeting, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 9-20 February 2004

6/Denmark pledged DKK 300,000 towards the COP-7 and COP/MOP-1 meetings, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 9-27 February 2004

7/UK pledged GBP 75,000 towards the COP-7 and COP/MOP-1 meetings, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 9-27 February 2004

8/Canada pledged Cdn\$ 38,500 towards the COP-7 Meeting, as per Agreement ESR022

9/Japan pledged US\$ 30,000 towards the COP-7 Meeting, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 9-20 February 2004

10/Japan pledged US\$ 30,000 towards the Asia and the Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for COP-7, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 8 February 2004

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ANNEX V

GENERAL TRUST FUND FOR THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (BY)
as at 31 March 2004

Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/03	Pledges for 2004	Collections in 2003 for 2004	Collections in 2004 for prior yrs	Collections During 2004 for 2004 & future yrs	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2004	Unpaid Pledges for 2004 & Prior years
	US \$	US \$	US \$	US \$	US \$	US \$	US \$	US \$
Afghanistan	840	884				840	884	1,724
Albania	441	295				441	295	736
Algeria		6,895	6,895			0	0	0
Angola		197	1,614			0	(1,417)	(1,417)
Antigua & Barbuda		197				0	197	197
Argentina	331,061	113,174		161,511		169,550	113,174	282,724
Armenia	20,329	197				20,329	197	20,526
Australia		160,256	160,256			0	0	0
Austria	0	93,277			93,277	0	0	0
Azerbaijan	2,337	394				2,337	394	2,731
Bahamas		1,182				0	1,182	1,182
Bahrain	20	1,773		20	1,773	0	0	0
Bangladesh	855	985				855	985	1,840
Barbados		886	886			0	0	0
Belarus	62,381	1,871				62,381	1,871	64,252

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Belgium		111,204				0	111,204	111,204
Belize		98	98		98	0	(98)	(98)
Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/03	Pledges for 2004	Collections in 2003 for 2004	Collections in 2004 for prior yrs	Collections During 2004 for 2004 & future yrs	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2004	Unpaid Pledges for 2004 & Prior years
Benin		197	5			0	192	192
Bhutan		98			98	0	0	0
Bolivia		788				0	788	788
Bosnia & Herzegovinia		0				0	0	0
Botswana	0	985			1,970	0	(985)	(985)
Brazil	175,772	235,410				175,772	235,410	411,182
Bulgaria	0	1,280	984			0	296	296
Burkina Faso	331	197				331	197	528
Burundi	490	98				490	98	588
Cambodia	210	197		210	197	0	0	0
Cameroon		886	3,862			0	(2,976)	(2,976)
Canada	0	251,957			251,957	0	0	0
Cape Verde	2,454	984				2,454	984	3,438
Central African Rep.	0	98				0	98	98
Chad	2,598	98				2,598	98	2,696
Chile		20,882	16,848			0	4,034	4,034
China	0	150,899				0	150,899	150,899
Colombia	195	19,798				195	19,798	19,993
Comoros	2,598	98				2,598	98	2,696
Congo	48	98				48	98	146
Congo Dem. Rep	4,882	0				4,882	0	4,882
Cook Islands	271	98		271	98	0	0	0
Costa Rica	6,320	1,970		5,102		1,218	1,970	3,188
Cote d'Ivoire	1,631	0				1,631	0	1,631

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Croatia		3,841				0	3,841	3,841
Cuba	17,667	2,955			17,667	2,955	20,622	
Cyprus	0	3,743			0	3,743	3,743	
Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/03	Pledges for 2004	Collections in 2003 for 2004	Collections in 2004 for prior yrs	Collections During 2004 for 2004 & future yrs	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2004	Unpaid Pledges for 2004 & Prior years
Czech Republic		19,995	19,995			0	0	0
Denmark	0	73,775				0	73,775	73,775
Djibouti	0	98				0	98	98
Dominica		98	67			0	31	31
Dominica Rep.	8,161	2,265			8,161	2,265	10,426	
Ecuador	0	2,462				0	2,462	2,462
EEC	0	192,858	3,201		231,044	0	(41,387)	(41,387)
Egypt	0	7,978				0	7,978	7,978
El Salvador	0	1,773				0	1,773	1,773
Equatorial Guinea	2,598	98			2,598	98	2,696	
Eritrea	92	98				92	98	190
Estonia	0	985	985			0	0	0
Ethiopia		394	394			0	0	0
Fiji		394	314		80	0	0	0
Finland	0	51,416			51,416	0	0	0
France	0	636,887			636,887	0	0	0
Gabon	7,457	1,379				7,457	1,379	8,836
Gambia	0	98	94			0	4	4
Georgia	41,653	492			41,653	492	42,145	
Germany	0	962,225			962,225	0	0	0
Ghana	462	492				462	492	954

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Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/03	Pledges for 2004	Collections in 2003 for 2004	Collections in 2004 for prior yrs	Collections During 2004 for 2004 & future yrs	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2004	Unpaid Pledges for 2004 & Prior years
Greece	0	53,090	7			0	53,083	53,083
Grenada	0	98	98			0	0	0
Guatemala	2,467	2,659			2,467	2,659		5,126
Guinea		295				0	295	295
Guinea-Bissau	2,119	98				2,119	98	2,217
Guyana	0	98				0	98	98
Haiti	1,857	197				1,857	197	2,054
Honduras	1,574	492				1,574	492	2,066
Hungary	0	11,820				0	11,820	11,820
Iceland		3,250	3,250			0	0	0
India	101	33,588				101	33,588	33,689
Indonesia	18,495	19,700		18,495		0	19,700	19,700
Iran	25,153	26,791				25,153	26,791	51,944
Ireland		28,958				0	28,958	28,958
Israel	0	40,877				0	40,877	40,877
Italy	0	498,867				0	498,867	498,867
Jamaica	370	394		370	394	0	0	0
Japan	0	1,697,146				0	1,697,146	1,697,146
Jordan	0	788				0	788	788
Kazakhstan	27,559	2,758		27,559		0	2,758	2,758
Kenya	20	788				20	788	808
Kiribati	0	98	83			0	15	15
Korea, Dem. People's Rep.		886				0	886	886
Korea, Rep. of	79,169	182,319			79,169	182,319		261,488
Kuwait	0	0				0	0	0
Kyrgyzstan	0	98				0	98	98

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Lao PDR	0	98			98	0	0	0
Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/03	Pledges for 2004	Collections in 2003 for 2004	Collections in 2004 for prior yrs	Collections During 2004 for 2004 & future yrs	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2004	Unpaid Pledges for 2004 & Prior years
Latvia	565	985				565	985	1,550
Lebanon	1,110	1,182				1,110	1,182	2,292
Lesotho	0	98	73			0	25	25
Liberia	435	98				435	98	533
Libya	19,939	6,599				19,939	6,599	26,538
Liechtenstein	0	591			591	0	0	0
Lithuania		1,674	1,674			0	0	0
Luxembourg	0	7,880			7,880	0	0	0
Macedonia	0	591				0	591	591
Madagascar	266	295		266	295	0	0	0
Malawi	543	197				543	197	740
Malaysia	0	23,147			23,147	0	0	0
Maldives		98				0	98	98
Mali		197	331			0	(134)	(134)
Malta		1,477				0	1,477	1,477
Marshall Island	0	98	98			0	0	0
Mauritania	1,429	98				1,429	98	1,527
Mauritius		1,083	1,083			0	0	0
Mexico	26,752	106,969		17,937		8,815	106,969	115,784
Micronesia,Fed. States		98			300	0	(202)	(202)
Moldova, Rep. of	17,571	197				17,571	197	17,768
Monaco	0	394			394	0	0	0
Mongolia	0	98				0	98	98

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Morocco	7,807	4,334				7,807	4,334	12,141
Mozambique	183	98				183	98	281
Myanmar	925	985				925	985	1,910
Namibia	0	689			689	0	0	0
Nauru	2,718	98				2,718	98	2,816
Nepal		394	1,297			0	(903)	(903)
Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/03	Pledges for 2004	Collections in 2003 for 2004	Collections in 2004 for prior yrs	Collections During 2004 for 2004 & future yrs	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2004	Unpaid Pledges for 2004 & Prior years
Netherlands	19	171,189				19	171,189	171,208
New Zealand		23,738	23,738			0	0	0
Nicaragua		98	98			0	0	0
Niger	2,454	98				2,454	98	2,552
Nigeria	12,016	6,698				12,016	6,698	18,714
Niue	1	98		1	98	0	0	0
Norway		63,630	207		63,393	0	30	30
Oman	0	6,008			6,008	0	0	0
Pakistan	262	6,008				262	6,008	6,270
Palau		98	508			0	(410)	(410)
Panama	1,665	1,773		700		965	1,773	2,738
Papua New Guinea	0	591				0	591	591
Paraguay	7,502	1,576				7,502	1,576	9,078
Peru	36,548	11,623				36,548	11,623	48,171
Philippines	3,773	9,850		3,773		0	9,850	9,850
Poland	0	37,232				0	37,232	37,232
Portugal	42,723	45,506				42,723	45,506	88,229
Qatar		3,349	3,349			0	0	0
Romania	0	5,713				0	5,713	5,713
Russian Federation	0	118,197				0	118,197	118,197

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Rwanda	0	98				0	98	98
St.Kitts &Nevis		98	98			0	0	0
St. Lucia	0	197	203			0	(6)	(6)
Saint Vincent & Grenadines	1,769	98				1,769	98	1,867
Samoa		98	98			0	0	0
Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/03	Pledges for 2004	Collections in 2003 for 2004	Collections in 2004 for prior yrs	Collections During 2004 for 2004 & future yrs	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2004	Unpaid Pledges for 2004 & Prior years
San Marino		197				0	197	197
Sao Tome Principe	271	98				271	98	369
Saudi Arabia	101,808	54,568		101,808	54,568	0	0	0
Senegal	0	492	5,009			0	(4,517)	(4,517)
Seychelles		197	1,100			0	(903)	(903)
Sierra Leone	0	98	4			0	94	94
Singapore		38,710	38,710			0	0	0
Slovak		4,235	4,235			0	0	0
Slovenia		7,978	7,978			0	0	0
Solomon Is.	2,119	98				2,119	98	2,217
South Africa		40,187	40,187			0	0	0
Spain	0	248,091				0	248,091	248,091
Sri Lanka	1,440	1,576				1,440	1,576	3,016
Sudan	4,588	591				4,588	591	5,179
Suriname	1,522	197				1,522	197	1,719
Swaziland	367	197				367	197	564
Sweden	0	101,133	101,133			0	0	0

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Switzerland		125,486	125,486			0	0	0
Syria		7,880	3,750			0	4,130	4,130
Tajikistan	92	98				92	98	190
Thailand	0	26,535			20,228	0	6,307	6,307
Togo	271	98				271	98	369
Tonga	0	98				0	98	98
Trinidad & Tobago		1,576	5,708			0	(4,132)	(4,132)
Tunisia	2,774	2,955				2,774	2,955	5,729
Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/03	Pledges for 2004	Collections in 2003 for 2004	Collections in 2004 for prior yrs	Collections During 2004 for 2004 & future yrs	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2004	Unpaid Pledges for 2004 & Prior years
Tuvalu	92	98				92	98	190
Turkey	0	43,339				0	43,339	43,339
Turkmenistan	7,804	295				7,804	295	8,099
Uganda		492	409			0	83	83
Ukraine	0	5,220				0	5,220	5,220
U. K.	0	545,284			545,284	0	0	0
United Arab Emirates	0	19,897				0	19,897	19,897
Un. Rep. of Tanzania		394	19,733			0	(19,339)	(19,339)
Uruguay	19,827	7,880				19,827	7,880	27,707
Uzbekistan	11,987	1,083				11,987	1,083	13,070
Vanuatu	0	98	2			0	96	96
Venezuela	42,206	20,488				42,206	20,488	62,694
Viet Nam	0	1,576	1,376			0	200	200
Yemen	5,241	591				5,241	591	5,832
Yugoslavia	1,849	1,970				1,849	1,970	3,819
Zambia	563	197				563	197	760
Zimbabwe	2,931	788		2,931	788	0	0	0
Sub Total	1,249,765	7,741,394	607,611	340,954	2,955,275	908,811	4,178,508	5,087,319

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Additional Contributions						0	0	0
Canada		800,000				0	800,000	800,000
USA						0	0	0
Quebec	19	200,000				19	200,000	200,019
Grand Total	1,249,784	8,741,394	607,611	340,954	2,955,275	908,830	5,178,508	6,087,338

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ANNEX VI

**LIST OF MEETINGS ORGANIZED BY THE
SECRETARIAT OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
(as at 31 March 2004)**

2003		
DATES	MEETING TITLE	VENUE
16- 17 January 2003	Scoping Meeting of the Advisory Group for the 2 nd Edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook Report	Montreal, Canada
10-12 February 2003	Expert Group on Indicators of Biological Diversity	Montreal, Canada
19-21 February 2003	Ad hoc Technical Expert Group on Genetic Use Restriction Technologies	Montreal, Canada
24-26 February 2003	Ad hoc Technical Expert Group on Traditional Knowledge and the Clearing House Mechanism	Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia
9 March 2003	SBSTTA Bureau Meeting	Montreal, Canada
9 March 2003	Meeting of the Informal Advisory Committee of the Clearing House Mechanism	Montreal, Canada
10-14 March 2003	Eighth Meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice	Montreal, Canada
15 March 2003	Joint Meeting of the ICCP and COP-6 Bureaux	Montreal, Canada
17-20 March 2003	Open-ended Meeting of the Programme of Work of the Conference of the Parties up to 2010	Montreal, Canada
31 March – 2 April 2003	African Regional Meeting on Capacity Building for the Clearing House Mechanism	Nairobi, Kenya
10-11 April 2003	Biosafety Clearing House Technical Expert Group Meeting	Montreal, Canada
6-8 May 2003	Fourth Workshop on Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
13-16 May 2003	Workshop of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biological Diversity and Climate Change	Helsinki, Finland
21-23 May 2003	2010 – the Global Biodiversity Challenge Meeting	London, U.K.

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3-5 June 2003	Workshop on Incentive Measures for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of the Components of Biological Diversity	Montreal, Canada
DATES	MEETING TITLE	VENUE
10-14 June 2003	Meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Group of Experts on Protected Areas	Tjarnö, Sweden
1-3 July 2003	Ad hoc Technical Expert Group on Mountain Biodiversity	Rome, Italy
7-11 July 2003	Meeting on the further elaboration and Guidelines for the Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach	Montreal, Canada
12-14 August 2003	Joint Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Meeting on the Clearing House Mechanism and the Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network	Cancun, Mexico
28-29 August 2003	Meeting of the Bureau of the Intergovernmental Committee on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	Montreal, Canada
9-11 September 2003	Central and Eastern European Regional Meeting on the Clearing House Mechanism and the European the Clearing House Mechanism	Czech Republic
18 September 2003	Liaison Group meeting on Protected Areas (in conjunction with the World Congress on Protected Areas)	Durban, South Africa
6-8 November 2003	International Workshop on Forest Protected Areas	Montreal, Canada
10-15 November 2003	Ninth Meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice	Montreal, Canada
21 November 2003	Informal Consultations n the proposed 2005-2006 budget of the Convention on Biological Diversity	Geneva, Switzerland
1-5 December 2003	Second meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit Sharing	Montreal, Canada
8-12 December 2003	Third meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions	Montreal, Canada

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2004		
DATES	MEETING TITLE	VENUE
22- 23 January 2004	Latin American and Caribbean regional preparatory meeting for the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity	Buenos Aires, Argentina
8 February 2004	Asia and the Pacific regional preparatory meeting for the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
8 February 2004	African regional preparatory meeting for the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
8 February 2004	Third meeting of the Global Taxonomy Initiative Coordination Mechanism	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
9-20 February 2004	Seventh Ordinary Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
13 and 17 February 2004	Meeting of the Clearing-House Mechanism Informal Advisory Committee	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
22 February 2004	Joint COP/ICCP Bureau Meeting	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
23-27 February 2004	First meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
24-26 February 2004	Biosafety Clearing-House Training Workshop	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

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