



**PERMANENT DELEGATION OF BRAZIL TO THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
LOCATED IN MONTREAL**

N. 27

The Permanent Delegation of Brazil to the International Organizations located in Montreal presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and, in reference to Notifications 2009-04-15 and 2009-06-10, transmits herewith attached a Brazilian position paper on the CBD Updated and Revised Strategic Plan beyond 2010.

The Permanent Delegation of Brazil avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity the assurances of its highest consideration.

Montreal, 2 November 2010.



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**Brazilian Position Paper
Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
Updated and Revised Strategic Plan beyond 2010**

1. In light of the process for revising and updating the Strategic Plan with a view to adopting a revised Strategic Plan at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, Brazil reaffirms the importance of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its three objectives: conservation of biological diversity, sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources.

A. OVERCOMING THE IMPLEMENTATION DEFICIT

2. In the post-2010 period, the international community must overcome the implementation deficit of the Convention, a direct consequence of the scarcity of financial, human, technical and technological resources in developing countries. The Revised Strategic Plan for a post-2010 period must address the two critical issues identified by Executive Secretary (note UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/2/2) on the implementation of goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan, which relate to the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and limited availability of financial resources: i) "Ninety per cent or more of all reporting countries identify lack of financial, human and technical resources as a high or medium challenge for implementing these articles and provisions"; and ii) "Technology transfer and cooperation under the Convention has been very limited". Such critical issues hinder the process of implementation of the Convention as a tool for sustainable development at the local, regional and global levels.

B. THE ENHANCED AND BALANCED IMPLEMENTATION OF THE THREE OBJECTIVES

3. Brazil believes that in the post-2010 period, all Parties must strive for a balanced and enhanced implementation of the Convention's three objectives, so as to improve the contribution of biodiversity to the promotion of sustainable development, based on the recognition of the basic human, social and economic needs of our populations, including local and indigenous communities, who depend directly or indirectly on biodiversity for their livelihoods.

4. Bearing in mind the important contribution the Convention can make to sustainable development and the eradication of poverty, and the consequent urgency to enhance its implementation, Brazil outlines below the elements for a revised Strategic Plan that would lead to a balanced and enhanced implementation of the CBD's threefold objective in the post-2010 period. The success of the revised and updated Strategic Plan depends on implementing effective tools and international norms that recognize the value of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge and that ensures

fair and equitable sharing of benefits through financial and non financial mechanisms.

C. THE 2020 BIODIVERSITY TARGET

5. An updated and revised Strategic Plan should have, as its vision statement – or a 2020 biodiversity target -, a positive message, which must encompass the idea of a balanced and enhanced implementation of the three objectives, so as to improve the contribution of biodiversity to sustainable development. Flexibility is the key when developing the goals, targets and indicators associated with the vision of the revised Strategic Plan. This would enable countries to design policies that are adequate to their specific circumstances and capacities.

D. ENHANCING OUR KNOWLEDGE ON THE MULTIPLE DIMENSIONS OF BIODIVERSITY

6. Biodiversity will be best assured by identifying on the ground the vast array of species yet unknown. The collective effort to comprehensively identify our in situ resources should come in tandem with the recognition of the economic and social value and with the implementation of policies at the national and international levels to adequately remunerate the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Enhancing our knowledge on the multiple dimensions of biodiversity requires activities such as:

i) overcoming the "taxonomic impediment" through the Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI), highlighting the need to carry out the fifth and sixth planned activities, addressing capacity-building to support access to and generation of in situ taxonomic information and strengthening of networks for regional cooperation;

ii) the need to collect, identify and set in place at the national level the methodological tools to comprehensively estimate and measure the social and economic values derived from and associated with biodiversity;

iii) support to developing countries, including through the provision of new and additional financial resources, to undertake the activities outlined above.

7. In this first axis, developed country Parties should support the improvement of national institutional, technological and scientific capacities in developing countries in order to recognize and describe "in situ" biological resources. This would contribute to a truly global taxonomic effort and enable the international community to better understand by 2020 the rich variety of species that share the Planet with Humankind. In this context, a report would be made available by the Secretariat with a global assessment on progress reached by that year. Such an effort would be anchored on solid cooperation schemes aimed at reinforcing the knowledge of nature, with special

attention to building capacity, educating and training developing country Parties, with special attention to those that are biodiversity-rich.

8. Enhancing our knowledge of biodiversity also calls for an in depth study on the economic value of biodiversity and the contribution it can play on the promotion of sustainable development, taking into account existing initiatives, yet developed under the framework of the Convention and under the guidance of all Parties. Such an initiative should necessarily be geographically balanced, involving scientists and researchers from both developed and developing countries, as well as recognizing the role of traditional knowledge in valuing biodiversity.

E. ENHANCING THE PROVISION OF MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

9. The international community has time and again recognized the need and committed itself to provide means of implementation to developing countries so as to enable them to fully implement their commitment under multilateral environmental agreements. The CBD itself recognizes, in Article 20.4, that the fulfillment of obligations by developing countries depends on the effective implementation by developed countries of their obligations regarding the provision of new and additional financial resources and transfer of technology on preferential terms.

10. Attempting to enhance the implementation of the Convention without addressing the chronic lack of resources – financial, technical, technological and human resources – of developing countries is an enterprise doomed from the start. New initiatives must be developed so as to mobilize an increased flow of financial, scientific, technical and technological resources from developed to developing countries as well as to build an “enabling environment” capable of fostering planning, adoption, implementation, access, monitoring, adjustments and replication. These initiatives could involve:

- i) a multilateral benefit sharing fund that under the authority of the COP, to provide new and additional financial resources to developing countries, aiming at implementing the Convention;
- ii) a fast-track mechanism to access technologies that are relevant to the national implementation of the Convention by making available through the CHM non-proprietary technology as well as distributing proprietary technology that would be acquired with funds from the multilateral benefit sharing fund;
- iii) partnerships established between developed and developing countries aiming at building institutional and human capacity of the latter with special attention to scholarship programmes and graduate exchange studies;
- iv) review of the best available technology, the recognized best operational and management practices and other measures as well as a pragmatic assessment of the

value of various types of sustainable development services and on ways and means of enhancing that value in the various biodiversity-sensitive sectors of society, as well the fair and equitable sharing of benefits for biodiversity, ecosystems, and the services they provide;

v) studies on possible mechanisms to remunerate ecosystem services provided by biodiversity in developing countries (e.g. climate regulation, freshwater supply, disaster risk reduction);

vi) remunerate local and indigenous communities that live amid biodiversity-rich areas and yearn to carry out activities that make sustainable use of biological resources while mainstreaming biodiversity into cross-sectoral or long-term development and environmental strategies, such as national strategies for sustainable development, national long term plan for social and economic development, national strategies for natural resources management, national environmental strategies and poverty reduction strategies;

viii) development of markets for products deriving from the sustainable use of biodiversity, including through improved market access in developed countries for sustainable products from developing countries.

11. In order to ensure that these commitments would be fulfilled, access and monitoring mechanisms regarding means of implementation – including needs assessments, targets and indicators – must be developed. In this regard, it should be recalled that the Strategy for Resource Mobilization of the Convention already calls for the development of targets concerning the provision of financial resources.

F. REVISING EXISTING GOALS AND TARGETS

12. The Strategic Plan (Decision VI/26) and its associated decisions (Decisions VII/30 and VIII/15) provide a framework that is still valid, although some adjustments may be called for. The goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan, as well as the outcome oriented indicators are still a valuable tool upon which we can build, in order to improve what we already have, instead of starting over from scratch.

13. The Provisional Framework of Goals and Targets would however benefit from a more in depth review, so as to better reflect the desired balance between the three objectives of the Convention. The provision of new and additional financial resources from all sources is also something that needs to be reflected when revising the existing goals and targets.

14. Developing measurable goals and targets should not be an overarching principle of the review process, particularly due to the fact that at the global level it would be difficult to establish scientifically robust targets and associated indicators. Nonetheless, there are already existing quantifiable indicators, such as coverage of protected areas. Parties should be urged to develop their own targets, including measurable targets,