

# **Scientific and Technical Needs Related to the Implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Targets of China**

## **I. Existing policy support tools and methodologies developed or used under the Convention and their adequacy, impact and obstacles to their uptake, and identify gaps and needs for further development of such tools and methodologies**

Since the Convention came into effect, massive policy support tools have been developed, which include strategic plans, work programmes, guidelines, principles, training manuals and best practice guidance, to name a few, covering agriculture, forests, mountains, marine areas, protected areas, climate change and traditional knowledge, etc. These tools play an important role in practices, especially in guiding scientific research by parties.

China's National Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plans is highly consistent with the guiding principles and requirements of policy support tools under the Convention. The Strategic targets and missions, priority areas, actions and programmes overlap partially the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. Such policy tools provide reference to development of China's NBSAP.

China looks forward to guidance in methodologies of evaluating the 2020 targets, such as development and evaluation of indicator system and hopes that the secretariat develops a global guiding system for the reference of parties.

## **II. Observations and Data Systems for Monitoring the Biodiversity Attributes Addressed in the Aichi Biodiversity Targets**

Since 1994, the Chinese government has organized various species surveys at national and regional levels, established databases and published inventories, such as Flora of China, Fauna of China, Spore Flora of China and China's Red Data Book of Endangered Animals. Relevant agencies carry out research and monitoring on species in respective field and set up monitoring networks and systems. However, baseline data on biological resources is far from adequate and identification and cataloguing of biodiversity is still a heavy task. Monitoring and warning systems of biodiversity have not been set up yet.

There are opportunities to make enhancement in national policies and programmes. Biodiversity observation and monitoring is incorporated into immediate and mid-term goals of China's NBSAP which will guide biodiversity conservation in the next two decades. By 2015, China will complete baseline surveys and evaluation of biodiversity in 8 to 10 priority conservation areas and implement effective monitoring. A monitoring, evaluation and warning system will be established. By 2020, China will

complete baseline surveys and evaluations in all priority areas and implement effective monitoring. The monitoring, evaluation and warning system will be further improved.

### **III. Scientific and technical needs related to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets**

As to the scientific and technical cooperation between Parties, in recent years, the Chinese government has undertaken following international cooperation in implementation of NBSAPs. First is training workshops. In 2012, China hosted Sino-SARC training workshop on development, upgrading and implementation of NBSAPs, inviting representatives from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka for exchanging experience and progress. This year, China will organize Sino-SARC workshop on capacity building in implementation of the Convention which will cover progress in upgrading NBSAPs, achievements in convention implementation for the past two decades, the UN Biodiversity Decade, the Cartagena Protocol and ABS.

Second is research on the economics of ecosystems and biodiversity. The Chinese government and research institutes undertake extensive cooperation with international organizations and agencies utilizing the TEEB results. For example, the Chinese Academy of Environmental Sciences have cooperated with GIZ in valuation of ecosystems and biodiversity and achieved preliminary results.

Third is joint research on biodiversity and climate change. China works through the EU-China Biodiversity Programme to undertake research on biodiversity and climate change, especially making progress in climate change adaptation and mitigation of biodiversity. In 2011, China hosted the International Workshop on Biodiversity and Climate Change. 120 experts and scientists attended the meeting and exchanged ideas over indicator systems, carbon sequestration, bio-mass and ecosystem services.