



## Press Brief

# National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs)

## Why is this important?

National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) are the principal instruments for implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) at the national level (Article 6). The Convention requires countries to prepare a national biodiversity strategy (or equivalent instrument) and to ensure that this strategy is mainstreamed into the planning and activities of all those sectors whose activities can have an impact (positive and negative) on biodiversity. To date, 180 (93%) Parties have developed NBSAPs in line with Article 6.

Further, in decision X/2, the Conference of the Parties (COP) urged Parties to review, revise and update, as appropriate, their NBSAPs in line with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. In addition, Aichi Biodiversity Target 17 calls for Parties to develop, adopt as a policy instrument, and commence implementing an effective, participatory and updated NBSAP by 2015.

Since 1993, 180 Parties have developed NBSAPs, with 14 Parties yet to submit their first NBSAP. Thus the majority (93%) of Parties have been through the process of formalizing their approach to meeting the three objectives of the CBD at least once. Of the 180 Parties that have prepared NBSAPs, 50 have revised them at least once. Twenty-six Parties (Australia, Belarus, Belgium, Cameroon, Colombia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia European Union, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malta, Myanmar, Serbia, Spain, Suriname, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, United Kingdom and Venezuela) have submitted NBSAPs since the adoption of the Strategic Plan. Of these 26 NBSAPs, 19 are revised versions, while 7 are the first NBSAPs to be developed by the Party.

...continued on page 2



Convention on  
Biological Diversity

[www.cbd.int/cop2014](http://www.cbd.int/cop2014)



In decision X/10, the COP requested Parties to submit their fifth national report by 31 March 2014. The fifth national reports are an important source of information for a mid-term review of progress towards the implementation of the Strategic Plan and progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets which will be undertaken by COP 12. The fifth national reports have also contributed to the development of the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook. Further, the fifth national report guidelines request Parties to report on contributions to the relevant 2015 Targets of the Millennium Development Goals.

To date, 84 fifth national reports have been submitted to the CBD. In addition, 31 countries have sent advanced draft reports.

## What news to expect in Pyeongchang?

The NBSAP and National Report agenda item for COP 11 is not a major item for negotiation because the role of revised and updated NBSAPs as the main national contribution to the global Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 was clearly defined by COP 10 decisions which remain operative through to 2020 (and beyond). Similarly, the 31 March 2014 deadline for 5th National Reports have allowed almost 100 of these reports to contribute to the mid-term review of the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 that is to be provided to COP 12 in the form of the Global Biodiversity Outlook 4.

It is likely that the majority of the 194 Parties will have completed and submitted their revised NBSAPs by the 2015 date set for Aichi Target 17. The main challenge facing Parties in the period following COP 12 is to “scale up” implementation of the revised NBSAPs. Thus the “fate” of effective NBSAPs, especially in developing remains “entwined” with the resource mobilisation negotiations in Pyeongchang.

### Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

413, Saint Jacques Street, suite 800  
Montreal, Quebec, H2Y 1N9  
Canada

Tel.: +1 514 288 2220  
Fax: +1 514 288 6588  
secretariat@cbd.int

[www.cbd.int/cop2014](http://www.cbd.int/cop2014)