



Convention on Biological Diversity

Distr.
GENERAL

CBD/COP/14/INF/1
12 November 2018

ENGLISH ONLY

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
Fourteenth meeting
Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, 17-29 November 2018
Item 22 of the provisional agenda*

REVIEW OF PROGRESS ON MAINSTREAMING BIODIVERSITY INTO AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND TOURISM

Note by the Executive Secretary

I. INTRODUCTION

1. Mainstreaming is a central approach for the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its associated Protocols, as it mobilizes producers, consumers, governments at all levels, the private sector, youth, non-governmental organizations, academia and society in general to support the urgent transformational change needed for achieving sustainability. As noted in the revised annotations to the provisional agenda of the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 14), the previous COP had adopted a comprehensive decision on mainstreaming and the integration of biodiversity within and across sectors¹, focused on the sectors of agriculture, forestry, fisheries and tourism, as well as the Cancun Declaration on Mainstreaming the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity for Well-being, whereas COP 14 will now consider the mainstreaming of biodiversity and ecosystem services into energy and mining, infrastructure, manufacturing and processing industry, and health. Subsequent discussions have made it clear that mainstreaming provides tools, mandates and competences to cooperate with the nine sectors mentioned but also with innumerable other ones including banking, finance and insurance, knowledge management, innovation, change management and information technology, advertising, education, entertainment and communications, as well as with all relevant areas of society and interest groups.

2. This report provides an update on work after COP 13 on agriculture, forestry, fisheries, and tourism, as a contribution to deliberations on mainstreaming of biodiversity under COP 14 agenda item 22. The cross-cutting and systemic nature of mainstreaming also make its content relevant to agenda item 17 (“Long-Term Strategic Directions to the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity, approaches to living in harmony with nature and preparations for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework”), as well as to items 9 (“Resource mobilization and the financial mechanism”), 12 (“Mechanisms for National Reporting, Assessment and Review”), 20 on sustainable wildlife management, 23 on conservation and sustainable use of pollinators, and 26 on the control of unintended alien species invasions.

3. The report is a compilation of contributions received from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), the National Commission for

* CBD/COP/14/1/Add.1/Rev.1.

¹ See [decision XIII/3](#).

Knowledge and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity (CONABIO) of Mexico, and other agencies, including relevant reports, events, guidelines and tools.

4. This document first describes actions undertaken as a follow-up to Decision XIII/3 on mainstreaming in the different sectors. It continues by providing selected examples of support by FAO to other COP 13 Decisions. The Annex lists selected recent reports, events, tools and guidance by FAO.

II. ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF DECISION XIII/3 ON MAINSTREAMING AND THE INTEGRATION OF BIODIVERSITY WITHIN AND ACROSS SECTORS

5. At COP 13, the Parties welcomed the Platform on Biodiversity and Agricultural Sectors launched by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for governments, communities of practice and other stakeholders to build bridges between sectors, identify synergies, align goals and develop integrated cross-sectoral approaches to mainstreaming biodiversity in the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors.

6. Following this request, the 40th Session of the FAO Conference welcomed FAO's initiative to lead the Biodiversity Mainstreaming Platform and requested FAO, in collaboration with the Convention on Biological Diversity, other United Nations organizations, and partners, to facilitate the integration of actions for the conservation, sustainable use, management and restoration of biological diversity across agricultural sectors at national, regional and international levels.² The ultimate goal of the Platform is the adoption of good practices across all agricultural sectors that will support biodiversity conservation, thus increasing the productivity, stability and resilience of production systems and reducing pressure on natural habitats and species. Addressing Sustainable Development Goals 2, 14 and 15, the Platform will also facilitate the exchange of expertise to improve the design and coordination of policies from local to international levels, as well as the exchange of information and data among stakeholders to reach a common understanding of the status quo, trends and trade-offs in the conservation and use of biodiversity services. Through FAO, the Platform will also serve as a mechanism to assist in translating the richness and variety of knowledge forms into policy-related actionable recommendations.

7. The first major event organized by the Platform was the Multi-stakeholder Dialogue on Biodiversity Mainstreaming across Agricultural Sectors, co-organized by FAO and the Convention on Biological Diversity and held from 29 to 31 May 2018.³ The Global Forum on Food Security and Nutrition organized an online consultation on mainstreaming biodiversity in agriculture, fisheries and forestry for improved food security and better nutrition⁴ prior to the Dialogue. The Joint Report of the Co-chairs of the Working Groups of the Dialogue proposed that FAO prepare a biodiversity strategy by 2020 at the latest (see CBD/SBI/2/INF/29).

8. The FAO Technical Committee meetings, during their sessions in 2018,⁵ discussed the outcomes of the Multi-stakeholder Dialogue on Biodiversity Mainstreaming across Agricultural Sectors.⁶ Considering the importance of biodiversity for sustainable agriculture, forestry and fisheries, its role in

² FAO includes in the definition of agricultural sector: crops, forestry, livestock, fisheries and aquaculture.

³ <http://www.fao.org/about/meetings/multi-stakeholder-dialogue-on-biodiversity/en/>

⁴ <http://www.fao.org/fsnforum/resources/outcomes/mainstreaming-biodiversity-agriculture-fisheries-and-forestry-improved-food>

⁵ The Technical Committee sessions held during 2018 were: 33rd Session of the Committee on Fisheries (9-14 July 2018); 24th Session of the Committee on Forestry (16-20 July 2018); 72nd Session of the Committee on Commodity Problems (26-28 September 2018); and 26th Session of the Committee on Agriculture (1-5 October 2018)

⁶ COFI/2018/Inf.28 (<http://www.fao.org/3/MW993en/mw993en.pdf>); COFO/2018/5.3

(<http://www.fao.org/3/MW839EN/mw839en.pdf>); CCP 18/INF/11

(http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/bodies/CCP_72/CCP72_INF/MX622_INF_11/MX622_CCP_18_INF_11_en.pdf); COAG/2018/10

(http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/bodies/COAG_Sessions/COAG_26/MX399_10/MX399_COAG_2018_10_en.pdf)

achieving both the FAO Strategic Framework and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, the FAO governing bodies took decisions to strengthen the work on biodiversity. The Technical Committees requested FAO to develop a strategy for FAO on biodiversity mainstreaming across agricultural sectors, ensuring consistency with other FAO strategies, including the one on climate change, for consideration by the Programme Committee and the Council and for adoption by the Conference in 2019 in view of the preparation of the post-2020 biodiversity framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity,⁷ and requested FAO to organize electronic consultations on the draft strategy on biodiversity mainstreaming and, subject to the availability of extra-budgetary resources, regional dialogues on mainstreaming biodiversity into the different agricultural sectors. In 2020, the COP 15 of the Convention on Biological Diversity is expected to consider the adoption of a post-2020 global biodiversity framework. FAO, through the Biodiversity Mainstreaming Platform, in consultation with the FAO Governing Bodies, will contribute to the development of this framework.

9. The Government of Mexico continued its collaboration with FAO on biodiversity mainstreaming. CONABIO, with the support of FAO, UN Environment, UNDP and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and hosted by SEMARNAT, organized “The Path We Face: Progress on Mainstreaming Biodiversity for Well-Being” workshop, 5-7 June 2018, in Mexico City, to assess and discuss progress made in the implementation of the biodiversity mainstreaming agenda in the four mentioned sectors (see CBD/SBI/2/INF/39). A first High Level Regional Dialogue on the Integration of Biodiversity in the Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing sectors, was organized in October 2018 in Mexico City, Mexico at the invitation of Mexico.

10. A key activity in furthering BD mainstreaming is helping countries to access financing to do so. FAO has supported more than 40 countries in accessing financing for biodiversity mainstreaming from the GEF. FAO actively supports its member countries to design and implement biodiversity mainstreaming projects funded by the GEF. FAO has provided support more than 40 countries to access approximately US\$ 300 million from the GEF, leveraging an additional approximately US\$ 1 billion to work on biodiversity mainstreaming into the agriculture, forestry, and fisheries sectors.

Regarding decision XIII/3, paragraphs 39-40

11. The 16th Regular Session of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (30 January – 3 February 2017) welcomed the draft report on *The State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture*, and agreed on a schedule for the development of draft needs and possible actions for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity for food and agriculture.⁸ This report, also a milestone in the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity, is an essential step in creating a comprehensive picture of the state and use of this biodiversity, thus providing a strong foundation for the design of effective interventions towards more sustainable, resilient food systems. Five years in the making, the report engaged over 150 authors and reviewers, who based their analysis on 91 country reports prepared by over 1,300 contributors. The report details the many benefits biodiversity brings to food and agriculture; examines how farmers, pastoralists, forest dwellers and fisherfolk have shaped and maintained biodiversity; and identifies major drivers of change that need to be addressed. Crucially, it highlights policies, practices and options that improve the sustainable use of biodiversity for food and agriculture, and so promote food security and nutrition, functional ecosystems, productivity and sustainability, and secure livelihoods. FAO will launch the full report in February 2019 on the occasion of the Seventeenth Regular Session of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

⁷ Link to final reports can be found at <http://www.fao.org/about/meetings/council/cl160/documents/en/>

⁸ CGRFA-16/17/Report, paragraph 10-16

Regarding sustainable consumption and production (XIII/3 and XIII/22. Framework for a communications strategy)

12. FAO continued to support, together with UNEP and other partners, the One Planet Sustainable Food Systems Programme, that was formed to implement the commitment of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP). It generates impacts through its six programmes: Public Procurement, Buildings and Construction, Tourism, Consumer Information, and Lifestyles and Education and sustainable Food Systems (SFS). The focus themes of the program supported by FAO are Sustainable diets, Sustainability along all food value chains, Reduction of food losses and waste, multi-stakeholder platforms (local, national, regional), and Resilient, inclusive, diverse food production systems.

13. Efforts to ensure urban food security through local food systems, from production to consumption and distribution, depend directly on functioning ecosystems in the city and in its hinterlands. In developing local food systems, the objective is not to constrain the global supply chains that contribute to food and nutrition security for many countries, but to provide local and sustainable alternatives that enhance local agricultural biodiversity.⁹ FAO, jointly with the lead of UN-Habitat and global partners including several other United Nations agencies, is currently developing guiding principles and a framework for action on ‘Urban-Rural Linkages to Advance Integrated Territorial Development’ aimed at providing for flexible application by different levels of government, intergovernmental organizations, development partners and stakeholders from academia, research, civil society including grassroots organizations and the private sector at all scales. The Guiding Principles help address the intrinsic complexity of aligning different levels of governance (national, territorial and local) while recognizing unique local contexts and multiple pathways for implementation. In this regard, FAO’s assists countries and provide support to sub-national governments and local institutions who are actively engaged in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda by promoting:

14. Territorial development linked to integrated landscape management and support to primary producers and smallholders as the stewards of ecosystem services to protect natural resources and biodiversity (including agricultural biodiversity).

15. Use of systems approaches and sustainable bioeconomy frameworks to link and prioritize interventions that integrate resilience to climate change, promote biodiversity and protect ecosystem functions and natural resources. For instance, through recycling, reuse and remediation at the landscape level (including soil, water, plant and animal habitat), or waste and energy reuse across the urban-rural continuum.

16. Integration of natural and built environments through nature-based solutions such as ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change that will foster sustainability, livability, productivity and resilience.

17. Initiatives to reduce food loss and waste, which presents a key opportunity to improve environmental sustainability and is necessary for achieving inclusive and sustainable food systems. Under its Save Food initiative, FAO maintains a Community of Practice on Food Loss Reduction and its Technical Platform on the Measurement and Reduction of food loss and waste¹⁰

Regarding decision XIII/3, paragraphs 19-41 - Agriculture

18. FAO continued its support to countries in mainstreaming sustainable food and agriculture in the 2030 Agenda in an integrated way, e.g. through the related FAO guidelines to “Transforming food and agriculture to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals”.

⁹ <http://cbobook.org/key-messages-6.php?r=1&width=1920>

¹⁰ <http://www.fao.org/food-loss-and-food-waste/en/>

19. FAO hosted the 2nd International Symposium on Agroecology: Scaling Up agroecology to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals in April 2018.¹¹ A Scaling up Agroecology Initiative¹² was launched during the Symposium in cooperation with major United Nations partners, and participants representing national and international institutions, and constituencies. The Initiative is proposed as a way forward and as a strategic approach to promote and achieve the 2030 Agenda, in particular Sustainable Development Goal 2. Results were presented to the Committee on Agriculture¹³ which requested FAO to continue applying agroecology as one of the approaches to implement the five principles of sustainable food and agriculture¹⁴ in support of the Sustainable Development Goals and to assist countries and regions to engage more effectively in the transition processes towards sustainable agriculture and food systems¹⁵. The Committee also supported the Ten Elements of Agroecology¹⁶, as presented by FAO, as a guide to one of the ways to promote sustainable agriculture and food systems.

20. The Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) continued to expand. As of September 2018, there were 52 designated GIAHS sites in 21 countries which reflect a wide variety of agricultural production systems and landscapes in different parts of the world. A GIAHS¹⁷ International Forum was held at FAO in April 2018.¹⁸

21. FAO, together with the European Investment Bank published ‘Strengthening sustainable food systems through geographical indications. An analysis of economic impacts’¹⁹ and promotes rural development through development of Geographical indications at regional level in Asia for Cambodia, Lao, Thailand and Vietnam. FAO, in collaboration with UN Environment, supported member countries in Africa, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) through a MEAs 2 project funded by EC to reduce pesticide risks to public health and the environment and mainstream biodiversity into agriculture through building synergies between target Conventions in the agriculture sector and strengthening institutional and national capacity for implementation. FAO is implementing 28 pesticide projects around the world with aims to enhance national capacity of sound management of pesticides and reduce risks in food system contributing to preservation of biodiversity through promoting integrated pest management (IPM), phasing out highly hazardous pesticides, demonstrating biological agents for pest management and training farmers through Farmer Field Schools.

The Secretariat of the Rotterdam Convention has reached out to more than 100 parties since 2016, assisting them in the implementation of the Convention and take informed decisions in order to reduce the risk of hazardous pesticides. In particular, the Rotterdam Convention Secretariat worked together with 11 Eastern and Western African countries to promote less hazardous alternatives to fenthion formulations used in bird management, with 15 South African Development Community countries on legal gaps in pesticide legislation and on highly hazardous pesticides, and with 9 Caribbean countries on alternatives to carbofuran, carbosulfan and other hazardous pesticides listed under the Rotterdam Convention.

¹¹ 2nd International Agroecology Symposium, <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1114099/icode/>

¹² <http://www.fao.org/3/I9049EN/i9049en.pdf>

¹³ COAG/2018/5 Agroecology: from advocacy to action

¹⁴ <http://www.fao.org/sustainability/background/principle-5/en/>

¹⁵ COAG report. Paragraph 13 ff.

¹⁶ COAG/2018/5, Annex

¹⁷ <http://www.fao.org/giahs/en/>

¹⁸ COAG/2018/7 The Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS)

¹⁹ <http://www.fao.org/3/I8737EN/i8737en.pdf>; Linking People, Places and Products - A Guide for Promoting Quality Linked to Geographical Origin and Sustainable Geographical Indications <http://www.fao.org/sustainable-food-value-chains/library/details/en/c/266257/>

Regarding decision XIII/3, paragraphs 42-58 - Forests

22. At its 24th Session, held in July 2018, the FAO Committee on Forestry discussed the role of biodiversity in the forest sector.²⁰ It supported FAO's initiative to serve as a Biodiversity Mainstreaming Platform covering agriculture, forestry and fisheries in an integrated manner, and recognized that the implementation of sustainable forest management is important for mainstreaming biodiversity in forestry.²¹ COFO also invited member countries to engage in the Platform to exchange information on opportunities and constraints for biodiversity mainstreaming in forestry, and to strengthen the implementation of international agreements relevant to biodiversity and forests, as well as the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Sustainable Use and Development of Forest Genetic Resources adopted by the FAO Conference in 2013.

23. Following decision XIII/3, FAO has supported the development and implementation of measures, guidance and tools to promote the mainstreaming of biodiversity in the forest sector and contributed towards achieving relevant Aichi Biodiversity Targets and Sustainable Development Goals. In November 2017, FAO organized, in collaboration with its partners, a global meeting on Sustainable Wood for a Sustainable World (SW4SW) in Rome.²² The meeting brought together over 100 professionals from 40 countries across the globe to share their experiences, learn and debate the future of sustainable wood value chains and their contributions to sustainable development. Furthermore, and as will be reported below in more detail for paragraphs 11 and 50, in February 2018 the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) organized the International Conference on Working across Sectors to Halt Deforestation and Increase Forests Cover - From Aspiration to Action.²³

24. FAO is the custodian for the two forest-related indicators of Sustainable Development Goal Targets 15.1 and 15.2, and the data for these indicators is collected through the Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) process. In March 2018, FAO organized a technical meeting for the National Correspondents and other FRA experts and partners in Toluca, Mexico to officially launch the FRA 2020 process.²⁴ A total of 164 experts from 93 countries attended the meeting and the National Correspondents were trained on country reporting requirements and on the use of the new online reporting platform. In 2018, FAO also celebrated 70 years of FRA. FAO is also the custodian the Sustainable Development Goal indicator 15.4.1 The Mountain Green Cover Index. A four-day training workshop will be organized at FAO during 26-29 November 2018 with a focus on the methodology and the interpretation of data to ease the process of the data validation of which countries are in charge.

25. In the area of forest genetic resources, FAO prepared a preliminary first report on the implementation of the GPA-FGR, based on country progress report submitted by the National Focal Points, and draft voluntary guidelines for preparing a national strategy on forest genetic resources for review by the Intergovernmental Technical Working Group on Forest Genetic Resources at its 5th Session held in Rome in May 2018. FAO also presented a proposed process and draft reporting guidelines for the preparation of *The Second Report on the State of the World's Forest Genetic Resources* (by 2023) to the Working Group. The recommendations of the Working Group²⁵ on these topics will be considered by the 17th Regular Session of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture in February 2019.

²⁰ COFO/2018/5.3, <http://www.fao.org/3/MW839EN/mw839en.pdf>

²¹ C 2019/24 Report of the 24th Session of the Committee on Forestry

²² <http://www.fao.org/forestry/46700-0a274f69ab292a75be6ef89e8c4aa7566.pdf>

²³ <http://www.fao.org/forestry/47153-03b237780a68c898669ca30255036e19a.pdf>

²⁴ <http://www.fao.org/3/BU648en/bu648en.pdf>

²⁵ CGRFA/WG/FGR-5/18/Report, <http://www.fao.org/3/MX530EN/mx530en.pdf>

Regarding decision XIII/3, paragraphs 11 and 50

26. The Conference “Working Across Sectors to Halt Deforestation and Increase Forest Area - From Aspiration to Action”, convened by the Collaborative Partnership on Forests in Rome in February of 2018, brought together around 300 participants from within and outside the forest sector to identify actions urgently needed to achieve two global targets set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030 (UNSPF), also as a contribution to the 2018 review of Sustainable Development Goal 15 by the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, 9-18 July 2018. Through a constructive dialogue across sectors and stakeholder groups, participants considered ways to collectively achieve the globally agreed targets of halting deforestation and increasing forest cover, based on experiences and best practices. The co-chairs summary report, presented at the 13th session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF 13, 7-11 May 2018) can be found at <http://www.cpfweb.org/47129-080cab460fd2563e8b388f642b811133.pdf>.

27. Coordination across sectors at all levels is essential to developing “forest smart” policies that help halt deforestation and forest degradation. Examples of national policies and initiatives that integrate forest-based solutions include afforestation campaigns to reduce large-scale seasonal erosion and combat desertification while promoting water and food security; incentives to intensify agriculture on existing farmland and turn degraded pastures into cropland; integration of mangrove protection into national disaster risk management strategies and fisheries management; comprehensive national strategies on climate change and plant resources; and studies to help design forest-smart mining policies that account for the direct and indirect effects of mining on forests.

28. Implementation should include actions at the national, subnational and/or local levels designed to i) enshrine forest policy objectives in laws and regulations and/or development plans; ii) emphasize win-win solutions and synergies (in addition to trade-offs) between forests and other economic sectors; iii) bring planning and finance ministries to the table in the process of cross-sectoral policy coordination and articulate the economic and social value of forests in the context of development planning and funding allocations; iv) and facilitate the role of civil society, as an independent actor, to bridge interests between and across sectors by engaging stakeholders in policy interventions at the landscape level.

29. Based on discussions held with the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) partners at the Rome Conference and at UNFF 13, as well as results from a survey to CPF members, the report “Cooperation with other conventions, international organizations and partnerships – joint and individual contributions from CPF member organizations to the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets” (*also presented as CBD/SBI/2/INF/28*) was developed in response to paragraph 7 of decision XIII/7. It also identifies gaps where further efforts will be required to mainstream biodiversity in these forest-related global commitments. In ongoing cooperation, the UNFF Secretariat circulated a survey to CPF members on enhancing global forest policy coherence and a common understanding of sustainable forest management, which will be item agenda item 6 of UNFF14, Global Forest Goal 6. This informal survey is intended to generate preliminary information on UNFF14 agenda item 6 for consideration by the CPF at its retreat tentatively scheduled for December 2018 in Rome.

Regarding decision XIII/3 paragraphs 12 and 55

30. In June of 2018, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and ITTO launched a new project under the ITTO/CBD collaborative initiative for tropical forest biodiversity: “Development of a forest landscape restoration program for Guatemala based on ITTO guidelines”. This project, co-funded by the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative, aims at implementing forest landscape restoration actions through pilot restoration sites established in accordance with the “ITTO Guidelines for the Restoration, Management and Rehabilitation of Degraded and Secondary Tropical Forests”, focused on 4 strategic forest ecosystems that have been prioritized by the National Forest Institute (INAB) and the National Council for Protected Areas (CONAP) - cloud forests, dry forests, pine-oak forests and mangrove forests.

31. Another project under the initiative, “Building Capacities of ACTO Member Countries in Ecologically Responsible Forest Management and Biodiversity Conservation in Managed Forests of the Amazon”, is near completion, and results will be showcased on the occasion of Forest Landscape and Ecosystem Restoration Day as part of the Rio Pavilion on November 27. More information on the full range of active projects under the ITTO/CBD collaborative initiative can be found in Section II.C of CBD/SBI/2/INF/28.

32. Moreover, in its recommendation CBD/SBI/REC/2/9, the Subsidiary Body on Implementation requested the Executive Secretary, “subject to the availability of resources, to further strengthen the collaboration of the Secretariat with the International Tropical Timber Organization under the Collaborative Initiative for Tropical Forest Biodiversity, which includes enhanced biodiversity conservation in production forests, improved conservation and management of protected areas, and sustainable management of tropical forests, including through the development of a communication strategy on the outcomes generated by the Initiative and how they support the achievement of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and to report to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its third meeting”. Provisions are being made to strengthen the capacity of the Secretariat, under its revised structure, to strengthen this collaboration with ITTO in 2019.

Regarding decision XIII/3, paragraphs 59-76 - Fisheries and aquaculture

33. In decision XIII/3, the Conference of the Parties outlined several specific actions and approaches to be taken by Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to support mainstreaming biodiversity in fisheries and aquaculture. In the same decision, the COP requested the Executive Secretary to compile experiences in mainstreaming biodiversity in fisheries, including through the ecosystem approach to fisheries. Notification 2017-121 (16 November 2017) requested information on experiences in mainstreaming biodiversity in fisheries, including through the ecosystem approach to fisheries. Responses to this notification were then compiled and synthesized into document CBD/SBSTTA/22/INF/15, which was provided as information for the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at its 22nd meeting. The synthesis reviews various types of actions taken by Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to enhance consideration of biodiversity issues in fisheries and fisheries management. It lists actions with regards to legal frameworks, policies, management plans and measures and approaches to enable the implementation of measures to mainstream biodiversity in fisheries. It describes progress in the development and/or modification of legal frameworks (e.g. fisheries acts, marine resources act, environment and biodiversity conservation act) in order to better (i) integrate the ecosystem approach and the precautionary approach into fisheries, (ii) conserve and sustainably utilize marine resources and (iii) conserve marine and coastal ecosystems, minimizing and mitigating impacts on biodiversity. The more advanced developments reflect a paradigm shift in fisheries management from a focus on target species and stocks of major economic value to a focus on a broader range of stocks (including data-poor stocks), explicitly considering impacts on non-target species, threatened species, habitats and ecosystem structure and function.

34. The synthesis also describes progress in the use of different policies with a range of approaches to balancing goals regarding the bioeconomic and ecological performance of fisheries, with due regard to target stocks but also to collateral impact on non-target species (reducing bycatch of mammals, seabirds and turtles) and habitats. It goes on to describe progress in the establishment of management plans to facilitate the implementation of the ecosystem approach to fisheries. Conventional measures, in particular in line with the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF) include mesh size regulations, closed areas, closed seasons, retrieval of lost gear to avoid “ghost fishing”, catch limits and Harvest Control Rules, port-States measures and trade and catch certification and traceability. The synthesis also reviews the use of measures that reflect broader ecological concerns, including marine protected areas, prohibitions of certain gears to reduce bycatch or to protect vulnerable habitats, use of bycatch excluder devices and the systematic use of Ecological Risk Assessment (ERA), among others.

35. The synthesis also describes actions taken to enhance and facilitate the use of the measures mentioned above, such as education and training courses for fishers, awareness-raising with consumers, control of invasive species and increased cooperation between fisheries and conservation agencies. Trends in enhanced dialogue, collaboration and coordination among regional organizations addressing environment and fisheries issues, respectively, including regional seas conventions and action plans (RSCAPS) and regional fishery bodies (RFBs), are also reported as an important step towards improving mainstreaming of biodiversity in fisheries.

36. The FAO Committee on Fisheries, at its 33rd Session,²⁶ commended the work of FAO on biodiversity mainstreaming and requested FAO to prepare and operationalize a fisheries and aquaculture biodiversity plan as part of its Biodiversity Strategy and contribution to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, building on its Biodiversity Mainstreaming Platform²⁷. FAO, working in cooperation with the IUCN Fisheries Expert Group (IUCN-FEG) produced a paper that documents the history and current efforts for biodiversity mainstreaming in fisheries.²⁸ The EAF Nansen Program continues to “Strengthening the Knowledge Base for and Implementing an Ecosystem Approach to Marine Fisheries in Developing Countries”. Activities in 2017-2018 include work across more than 24 countries²⁹, doing science, sampling data poor areas and developing institutional and human capacity for fisheries and biodiversity conservation research and management.

37. The 16th Regular Session of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture welcomed the draft report on *The State of the World's Aquatic Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture* and agreed on a process for its finalization.³⁰ The Report, based on 92 country reports, covers issues of production, consumption, trade, management, sustainable use and conservation of farmed aquatic species and their wild relatives within national jurisdiction.

Regarding decision XIII/3, paragraphs 77-82 - Tourism

38. Decision XIII/3, paragraphs 109 (d, e, f, g) and 111 (b) requested the Secretariat to compile information from various sources to support Parties in decision-making for sustainable tourism development and rural community tourism, including existing guidance, tools, and messaging approaches on biodiversity mainstreaming. With this in mind, the Secretariat:

(a) Researched available information and reached out to United Nations agencies such as the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), as well as UN Environment (UNEP) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), to international organizations such as IUCN and global NGOs, and to a network of experts, to identify the status and latest trends in sustainable tourism as related to the Convention on Biological Diversity agenda and recent decisions;

(b) Compiled the results of reports on celebrations around 2017, as the United Nations International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development, as a special year for mainstreaming biodiversity into tourism planning and operations; the wide range of activities reported allows for a global view of the status and perspectives on the subject;

²⁶ COFI/2018/Inf.28 and COFI/2018/SBD.20)

²⁷ C 2019/23 [Report of the 33rd Session of the Committee on Fisheries](#)

²⁸ Friedman, K., Garcia, S., Rice, J. 2018. Mainstreaming biodiversity in fisheries. *Marine Policy* 95: 209–220. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marpol.2018.03.001>).

²⁹ Countries worked with in 2017: Morocco, Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Gabon, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo (but no fish sampling), Angola, Namibia and South Africa; 2018: South Africa (east coast), Mozambique, United Republic of Tanzania, Joint development area between Seychelles and Mauritius, Sri Lanka, High seas Bay of Bengal, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Thailand (also two oceanographic/mesopleagics transects between United Republic of Tanzania and Seychelles and Mauritius- Sri Lanka).

³⁰ CGRFA-16/17/Report, paras. 38-42.

(c) Collected and summarized input from Parties through a survey distributed via notification 2018-070 sent on 9 August 2018, asking for input by 30 September 2018. The survey focused on the adoption of new policies, programmes and frameworks, generation and use of information on the positive and negative impacts on biodiversity of tourism for decision-making, promotion of capacity-building on development and implementation of financial instruments, such as entrance and tourism service fees, concessions and licenses, use of various communication, education and public awareness tools, in particular on rural community tourism and sustainable ecotourism activities and operations.

39. More details on progress and trends in the tourism sector, also addressing the request to the Executive Secretary in decision XIII/3 paragraph 111 (b), are available at www.tourism.cbd.int/ (“Mainstreaming Biodiversity Into Tourism Development – Report On Status, Trends And Relevant Activities”). The text below summarizes the most recent input received from the survey above from 10 Parties – all surveys will be displayed at www.tourism.cbd.int.

40. In *Australia*, the Indigenous Advancement Strategy is the principle framework through which the Australian Government funds and delivers a wide range of activities specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Implementation includes activities that seek to improve employment outcomes, stimulate and drive economic development and increase social participation. For instance, approximately 70 Traditional Owner clan groups participate in the management of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA) is collaborating with Traditional Owner groups to develop a suite of sea country management arrangements including Traditional Use of Marine Resources Agreements and Marine Park Indigenous Land Use Agreements.

41. An environmental management charge is associated with commercial and tourism operations, non-tourist charter operations, and facilities, operated under a permit issued by GBRMPA. Funds received are applied directly to management of the Marine Park. CEPA activities in the park focus on visitor education, showcasing transparent use of funds from entrance fees, outlining obligations of operators and customers, and branding and marketing the image of the park. At least two awards are given to sustainable Indigenous business, the AwardsSupply Nation’s Supplier Diversity Awards and the annual National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee Awards. As for monitoring, the example provided focused on Eye on the Reef, a reef monitoring and assessment program that enables anyone who visits the Great Barrier Reef to contribute to its long-term protection by collecting valuable information about reef health, marine animals and incidents.

42. *Egypt* is implementing an ecotourism strategy in collaboration of the governmental agencies, local authorities, and local communities. Criteria for the establishment of ecolodges were based on publications of the Secretariat of the Convention and inputs from experts from various countries. Visitor centres exist in protected areas with different themes reflecting the cultural and natural heritages, serving over 1 million tourists that visit protected areas and practice ecotourism. The southern Red Sea has been defined as an ecotourism site, where local communities get involved in activities and are aided to develop shelters, local foods, safaris and diving products, and many other facilities.

43. All tourism and visitation projects must prepare an environmental impact assessment in accordance with Environmental Law. Staff of Nature Conservation Sector follow up during operation and enforce the law. Violators must pay compensations, based on the damaged caused, reports are sent to the court and the money is used for rehabilitation and restoration activities. Certification is used, for instance, at the Samadi Dolphin House in the Red Sea for tour operators, and tourists are trained before entering the water.

44. The islands of *Antigua and Barbuda* are updating the 2008 CTO Sustainable Tourism Policy Framework and have developed a National Sustainable Tourism Development Plan. The Tourism Master Plan came to an end in 2017 and will be replaced by the National Tourism Strategy. The Ministry of Tourism and Investment has a Marketing and Communications plan which include documentaries and infomercials and implements the Tourism Cadet Programme for teenagers. The Ministry also promotes a voluntary standard and awards system (Green Tourism Initiative). Rural communities are supported to

develop and manage their own sustainable tourism products, which then get offered marketing support through trade shows, online media, and brochures. Additionally, green tourism businesses become members of the Green Corridor, a designated area where principles based on respect for local culture, positive influence on the local community, environmental stewardship and economic viability are set. Highlighted businesses are promoted through National Tourism Authority campaigns.

45. The main tourism policy document in *Poland* is the “Tourism Development Program to 2020” adopted by the Council of Ministers in 2015. Poland has also ratified the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians, including a Protocol on Sustainable Tourism. In 2017, the Carpathian Platform for Sustainable Tourism was created, operating in Poland, Romania and Ukraine, creating guidelines for sustainable infrastructure and activities in tourism, combining tourist routes, removing barriers, and preserving local, cultural and natural heritage.

46. A study commissioned in 2018 (“Analysis of the introduction of the tourist tax”) will allow for a diagnosis of the situation of the domestic market in terms of fees relevant for tourism (local tax, spa fees) and for projections related to investing incomes for the promotion of tourism, development of public space and tourist infrastructure, as well as support to protected areas and indigenous people and local communities. Other good practices include “Best Rural - 12 good practices in rural tourism”, a campaign to identify and popularize good practices in tourism in rural areas, the Rural Accommodation Base classification system run by the Polish Federation of Rural Tourism, the Nature-friendly Agrotourism - “Close to Nature” certificate and a Polish ecotourism certificate created by the Social Ecological Institute for rural tourism facilities of up to 25 rooms. In addition, since 2009, the Polish Tourism Organization (PTO) has been the coordinator of the EDEN project competition - European Destinations of Excellence. In 2018, PTO carried out a competition in accordance with the Rural Development Program for 2014-2020, selecting 12 best practices in rural tourism in 4 categories: Leisure at the farmer, Leisure in the countryside, Rural tourism resort offer and the offer of culinary routes in rural areas.

47. Parks & Wildlife *Finland* (PWF) has developed principles for sustainable tourism and promotes a Healthy Parks Healthy People program closely connected to tourism industry and sustainable tourism development. It currently monitors the sustainability of recreation and tourism in Finland’s protected areas with the Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC) methodology. The Convention on Biological Diversity’s Akwé: Kon principles related to indigenous peoples and local communities were applied in 2010 - 2012 in connection with management planning of the Hammastunturi Wilderness Reserve. The procedure is now used in all land use planning processes, including planning for nature tourism, in state-owned parts of the Saami Homeland Area.

48. PWF manages visitor monitoring systems over 20 years and adapted the US NPS Money Generation Model for Finnish circumstances 15 years ago, publishing economic and employment impact annually for each National Park and for some other important visitor destinations, as well as aggregated national information. These estimates show that on average, each euro invested in visitor facilities provides a 10-time larger return to the local economy.

49. CEPA tools used by PWF include certification of sustainable tourism, for instance through the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism and the Council of Europe Diploma Parks. In addition, international standards apply to UNESCO World Heritage Sites, MAB areas and GeoParks, as well as Ramsar areas. PWF has also a contractual nation-wide system for collaboration with over 600 tourism operators, which require the private sector operators to apply and follow the Principles of Protected Area Management in their services and activities within protected areas. The Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment has initiated Tourism 4.0 for the development of visitor infrastructure and facilities, and to promote sustainable nature tourism including in parks and protected areas. Finally, Finland developed the National Urban Parks concept, based on the Land Use and Building Act, to protect urban nature and promote connectivity. Currently there are 9 National Urban Parks, and there are also other land use conservation measures such as areas designated through spatial planning or through natural resource planning and landscape ecological planning on state lands.

50. In *Senegal*, although the tourism sector generates by far the most revenues related to the sustainable use of nature in and around parks, there is no official mechanism to channel those revenues to the public park agencies. Marketing is mostly mass-oriented, yet officers have also found that local host communities have generally been more willing to set aside resources for visitor management than accommodation providers and operators, who report being unable to face tough price competition for sales.

51. Although the *United Kingdom* does not have a sustainable tourism approach as such, existing policy tools allow for a strong record in terms of cross-cutting environmental policies. Tourism impacts in terms of economic value and jobs are tracked by statistics such as <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/leisureandtourism>, and United Kingdom tourism and hospitality trade bodies provide complementary market information at “Visit Britain” - <https://www.visitbritain.org/other-resources>. Research is also done in terms of niche markets, for example at <https://www.londonandpartners.com/media-centre/press-releases/2018/london-named-worlds-best-student-city>, and rural tourism is promoted also for instance through the Discover England Fund (<https://www.visitbritain.org/discover-england-fund>).

52. The existing legal framework in *Greece* for sustainable tourism is being revised, for instance through an upcoming law on “Thematic Tourism” that also promotes rural tourism and agritourism, cultural tourism, and eco- and geotourism. A public consultation has been completed in June 2018, and involved the participation of local communities, local government, the private sector and civil society, and it is expected to be examined soon in the Hellenic Parliament. The Greek Tourism Organization has compiled http://www.gnto.gov.gr/sites/default/files/files_basic_pages/ecoeotb.pdf (available only in Greek). Another study (in Greek) proposes a master plan for the development of eco-tourism in Greece (http://www.gnto.gov.gr/sites/default/files/files_basic_pages/Master_Plan_Agrotouristiki_2004.pdf), and many studies have also been made on the local level. The Ministry of Environment and Energy has funded additionally studies such as <http://www.wwf.gr/images/pdfs/ecos.pdf>.

53. In *Greece*, the network of Protected Areas is managed by 28 agencies supervised by the Ministry of Environment and Energy. The Greek government places particular emphasis on the promotion of less known and less popular tourism destinations in *Greece*, while simultaneously encouraging entrepreneurship, sustainable tourism investments and job creation. To this end, the Ministry of Tourism participates in the European Destinations of Excellence (EDEN) Programme, under the support of the European Commission, based on biannual national competitions that select a “destination of excellence” and 4 runners-up for each participating country. The initiative helps to spread the sustainable practices used in the awarded destinations across the European Union. Additionally, Protected Areas Management Bodies provide certification or awards systems, such as <http://www.samaria.gr/en/quality-certification/>.

54. As an example of a recent promotion activity, a photo and video exhibition under the theme of “Conserving Biodiversity and the traditional man-made environment in the Greek islands: drivers for sustainable tourism and resilient societies” was showcased at the margins of the United Nations High-Level Political Forum (2018), aimed at highlighting traditional techniques and practices, especially in the arid Aegean islands, that boost local development, social cohesion, enhanced livelihoods and innovation (in particular regarding Sustainable Development Goals 6, 7, 11, 12 and 15 and their interlinkages), creating resilient societies and a model to be duplicated today in the country. The video can be watched at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aifrFxiQY6w>.

55. *Greece* has produced the Alternative Tourism Initiative (ATI), an act planned within the Operational Programme “Competitiveness, Entrepreneurship and Innovation” (2014-2020) under the Partnership Agreement (PA) 2014-2020. The primary objective of this initiative was to help enterprises improving their competitiveness and growth through extroversion and specially to boost levels of competency and performance for tourism Small and Medium Enterprises by offering goods and services of high added value and excellent quality. ATI aims to finance many investment projects which enhance the diversification and enrichment of Greek tourism product through the development of alternative forms

of tourism (e.g. sport, sea, rural, gastronomic, medical and wellness tourism), and highlight the natural and cultural resources of the country, thus contributing to generating revenue for the local economies, combatting seasonality and amplifying tourism demand.

56. In November 2017, *Suriname* adopted the National Strategic Plan for Tourism 2018-2030, in Dutch, yet shared with the Secretariat. With the Act on “*Bedrijven en Beroepen*” the country will be able to set up Special Economic Zones including for tourism. Locations have been identified, with at least two pilot locations. The Minister of Spatial Planning, Land and Forest Management, under the European Union funded project, Global Climate Change Alliance Plus (2016-2020) is developing Management Plans for 3 Coastal Protected Areas especially for the Bigi Pan Multiple Use Management Area (MUMA) which emphasizes tourism development. The Ministry of Trade, Commerce and Tourism in collaboration with the Surinamese Bureau of Standards will define operations standards in tourism, derived from the CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality (CROSQ). Suriname has won several awards from Trip Advisor and Luxury Global Travel - promotion is mainly done at national, regional and international trade fairs, social media and websites, to be checked at <https://www.surinametourism.sr/>.

57. The *Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela* has a National Strategy for the Conservation of Biological Diversity 2010-2020 with an Action Plan, which promotes the development and implementation of sustainable tourism programs in the Strategic Areas for Conservation. The Venezuelan Ministry of People’s Power for Tourism is the governing body and the highest administrative authority in tourism, responsible for formulating, planning, directing, coordinating, evaluating and control policies, plans, programs, projects and strategic actions aimed at the sustainable development of the national territory as a tourist destination. The Ministry produced a guide to good environmental practices on water resource management; energy consumption; waste management; pollution control; environmental information and education; conservation of flora and fauna; and respect for the local culture. National parks, natural monuments, wildlife refuges, and biosphere reserves guarantee the protection and sustainable tourism use of areas such as Canaima National Park and Los Roques Archipelago National Park.

The National Institute of Parks (Inparques) and the Ministry of People’s Power for Tourism (Mintur) have developed educational materials with information about the country's National Parks (cultural and historical aspects, geography and climate, main attractions, gastronomy, norms related to the conservation of the environment, tariffs, among other aspects).³¹ Decree No. 1,442 for the Promotion of Sustainable Tourism as a Community and Social Activity³² promotes sustainable and responsible tourism as a community and social activity in accordance with the principles of social inclusion, social and economic justice, protection and improvement of the popular and alternative economy. One example is the Association of Guides and Innkeepers of the Páramo (Asobap), a group of tour operators working in the Venezuelan Andes and offers trips (horseback riding, walking, among other modalities) through the National Parks Sierra Nevada and La Culata (Mérida State). Other rural tourism activities are carried out in the plains and the Venezuelan jungle, such as hiking, camping, walks along rivers and streams, in line with the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

III. OTHER AREAS OF WORK IN SUPPORT OF BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE ACROSS SECTORS

Regarding Decision XIII/1. Progress in the implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and towards the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

Review of progress towards Aichi Biodiversity Target 16 on the Nagoya Protocol

The Secretariat of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, in collaboration with the Secretariats of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and the

³¹ For more information, access the following web portals: <http://www.mintur.gob.ve/> and <https://www.inparques.gob.ve/>.

³² Official Gazette of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela No. 6,153 Extraordinary of November 18 2014)

Convention on Biological Diversity, organized an international workshop on Access and Benefit Sharing in January to assist countries to identify and raise awareness of distinctive features and specific practices of subsectors of genetic resources for food and agriculture in the context of the voluntary guidelines contained in the “Elements to Facilitate Domestic Implementation of Access and Benefit-Sharing for Different Subsectors of Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture” (ABS Elements).³³

Regarding Decision XIII/4. Biodiversity and climate change

FAO published the Climate-Smart Agriculture web platform and the Climate-Smart Agriculture Sourcebook- Second Edition 2017³⁴. FAO also published Supplementary guidelines for addressing agriculture, forestry and fisheries in national adaptation plans.³⁵

Regarding Decision XIII/5. Ecosystem restoration: short-term action plan

FAO’s work on large-scale restoration includes the European Union-ACP Project *Actions Against Desertification* working in eight countries with a particular focus on drylands and Africa’s Great Green Wall Programme. It also includes the Forest and Landscape Restoration Mechanism, which is currently supporting forest and landscape restoration efforts in 18 countries and has generated more than \$50 million of extrabudgetary funding toward this end. This work is carried out in close partnership with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and Bioversity International and fully supports the achievement of Aichi Targets 5 and 15 dealing with reducing forest loss and degradation and restoring at least 15% of degraded ecosystems. Mainstreaming biodiversity concerns in forest and landscape restoration is an important objective of the work of the FLR Mechanism.

Regarding Decision XIII/8. Sustainable use of biodiversity: bushmeat and sustainable wildlife management

In October 2017, the €45 million Sustainable Wildlife Management (SWM) Programme was publicly launched at FAO.³⁶ The SWM Programme is a seven-year African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) initiative, which is funded by the 11th European Development Fund. In selected pilot sites, the aim is to tackle unsustainable levels of wild meat hunting, conserve biodiversity and natural heritage, and strengthen people's livelihoods and food security. The experiences from these pilots will be developed into models that can be adapted and replicated in other ACP countries with similar contexts and challenges.

Regarding Decision XIII/9. Marine spatial planning and training initiatives

58. FAO has been engaged in discussions within the Convention on Biological Diversity regarding the definition and criteria of ‘Other Effective Area Based Measures (OECMS)’ (as noted in Aichi Biodiversity Target 11),³⁷ and is planning to further support countries in identifying OECMs in line with the guidance of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

59. The 33rd Committee on Fisheries welcomed the support of FAO to the Convention on Biological Diversity towards achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and FAO participation in the post 2020 vision of Convention on Biological Diversity. It requested FAO to continue the work concerning area-based management tools and its cooperation with other organizations working on this matter. The Committee requested FAO to continue cooperation with the Convention on Biological Diversity and

³³ <http://www.fao.org/cgrfa/meetings/ttle-abs/en/>

³⁴ <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1056527/icode/>

³⁵ FAO. 2017. Addressing agriculture, forestry and fisheries in national adaptation plans. Supplementary guidelines. <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i6714e.pdf> , <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/885034/icode/>

³⁶ <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1042762/icode/>

³⁷ <https://www.cbd.int/meetings/PAEM-2018-01>

UN Environment in facilitating formal coordination mechanisms between RFBs and the Regional Seas Programmes.³⁸

Facilitating the monitoring of progress in the implementation of Target 6

60. FAO adapted the questionnaire on the Implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF questionnaire), adding new questions and adapting other questions to collect a range of information of relevance to assessing progress towards the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Target 6 (which includes elements of mainstreaming). The 33rd Committee on Fisheries reiterated its support for strengthened cooperation between FAO and international, regional and national bodies, as well as the private sector, in strengthening the development and delivery of suitable indicators for monitoring progress towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal and Aichi Biodiversity Targets relevant to fisheries. It emphasized the need to ensure comparability and consistency of reporting indicators at global, regional and national levels, whilst minimizing the burden on Members, and agreed that data and information submitted through the Code questionnaire could be used for reporting on Sustainable Development Goal indicators and Aichi Biodiversity Targets in aggregate and, where permission is explicitly granted by Members, for reporting on their national progress, subject to adequate consultation and validation of inputs by Members, as stated in paragraph 19 of its report.³⁹

Regarding Decision XIII/10. Addressing impacts of marine debris and anthropogenic underwater noise on marine and coastal biodiversity

61. The 33rd Committee on Fisheries encouraged FAO to conduct further work on quantifying the impacts of abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG) and developing and documenting best practices for addressing ALDFG, including the recovery and recycling of gear, the use of biodegradable gear to minimize its contribution to marine plastic pollution, as well as the reduction of ghost fishing. The Committee endorsed the Voluntary Guidelines on the Marking of Fishing Gear. It supported the development of a comprehensive global strategy to tackle issues relating to ALDFG and to support implementation of the Guidelines and encouraged the involvement of small-scale and artisanal fisheries and relevant RFMOs, regional fisheries management arrangements and other relevant international bodies. It welcomed the work of FAO on bycatch, and encouraged FAO to continue its work, engaging with Members, relevant experts and organizations, such as the International Whaling Commission and the North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission, in the development of best practices in the form of technical guidelines. This would require further consultations among Members.⁴⁰

Regarding Decision XIII/13. Invasive alien species: addressing risks associated with trade, experiences in the use of biological control agents, and decision support tools

62. The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) cooperates with the Convention on Biological Diversity for helping addressing issues with the management and control of invasive alien species, which the IPPC community generally refers to as “pests”. The coverage of the IPPC definition of plant pests includes weeds and other species that have indirect effects on plants. Additionally, the IPPC community has adopted recommendations on “LMOs, biosecurity and invasive alien species” and on “Threats to biodiversity posed by alien species: actions within the framework of the IPPC”. The Recommendation on: LMOs, biosecurity and alien invasive species provides guidelines on the role of the IPPC and the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) with regard to living modified organisms (LMOs) and invasive alien species. The recommendation also provides guidelines for the communication and cooperation with the Convention on Biological Diversity. The IPPC have also adopted CPM Recommendation (R-06) on Sea containers, the purpose of which is to protect agriculture, forestry and natural resources against pests. A Complementary Action Plan for Assessing and Managing the Pest

³⁸ C 2019/23 [Report of the 33rd Session of the Committee on Fisheries](#) paragraph 79

³⁹ C 2019/23 [Report of the 33rd Session of the Committee on Fisheries](#) paragraphs 88, 90, 91

⁴⁰ C 2019/23 [Report of the 33rd Session of the Committee on Fisheries](#) paragraph 104-106

Threats Associated with Sea Containers has been developed. To support the implementation of the CPM Recommendation and the Complementary Action Plan, the IPPC established a Sea Containers Task Force in 2017, to supervise the actions contained in the Sea Container Complementary Action Plan for Assessing and Managing the Pest Threats Associated with Sea Containers.

63. As electronic commerce, commonly known as e-commerce involves the digital transfer of goods and services across borders. Nowadays, even plants and plant products are purchased on line, but as this pathway is new, phytosanitary controls are not always undertaken. The IPPC is developing a work plan on e-commerce and is closely collaborating with the World Customs Organization (WCO) to develop tools and partnerships with e-traders and carriers.

64. The IPPC Secretariat contributed to the meeting of the Inter-Agency Liaison Group on Invasive Alien Species held in July 2018.

Regarding Decision XIII/28. Indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

65. FAO supports Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by providing policy advice, capacity building of different stakeholders, in close collaboration with other United Nations organizations, and national as well as international stakeholders. It also contributes to national, regional, and global follow-up and review, including reviews of individual Sustainable Development Goals conducted at the High-level Political Forum. A substantive portion of support has been devoted to developing methodologies on newly established Sustainable Development Goal indicators, and train concerned statistical experts as to establish monitoring of national indicators related to food security, sustainable agriculture, and sustainable management and use of natural resources, including water.

66. The Interagency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal indicators (IAEG-SDG), responsible for the development of the Sustainable Development Goal indicator framework, has identified FAO as “custodian agency” for 21 Sustainable Development Goal indicators, spanning Goals 2, 5, 6, 12, 14 and 15 and a contributing agency for a further five⁴¹, many of which cover Aichi Biodiversity Targets. In this capacity, FAO supports the Sustainable Development Goal reporting⁴² and contributes to the annual Global Sustainable Development Goal progress report prepared annually by the Secretary-General, and reviewed and discussed at the High-level Political Forum, the body mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to provide guidance for the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda.

67. In 2018, FAO submitted to the IAEG a methodological proposal for a new indicator for Sustainable Development Goal 2.4.1 (Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture, see Aichi Biodiversity Target 7). The 8th IAEG-SDG meeting approved the re-classification of Sustainable Development Goal indicator 2.4.1 from Tier III to Tier II⁴³. The indicator is composed of 11 sub-indicators on the social, economic and environmental sustainability of terrestrial, farm-based agriculture, including one sub-indicator on biodiversity and biodiversity friendly practices. The methodology has been tested in six countries to different degrees (Bangladesh, Belgium, Egypt, Mexico, Rwanda and Kyrgyzstan).

68. In support of the Aichi Biodiversity Target 13 and Sustainable Development Goal indicators 2.5., FAO launched the new The Domestic Animal Diversity Information System (DAD-IS),⁴⁴ the most

⁴¹ CGRFA-16/17/9.

⁴² <http://www.fao.org/sustainable-development-goals/en/>

⁴³ <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/?Text=&Goal=&Target=2.4>

⁴⁴ <http://www.fao.org/dad-is/en/>

complete source of global information on animal genetic diversity to date,⁴⁵ and a new version of the World Information and Early Warning System on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.⁴⁶

Regarding Decision XIII/24. Cooperation with other conventions and international organizations

69. The 33rd Committee on Fisheries appreciated the increased cooperation of FAO with relevant entities, notably Convention on Biological Diversity, CITES, United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment), and reiterated its support for strengthened cooperation between FAO and international, regional and national bodies, as well as the private sector, in strengthening the development and delivery of suitable indicators for monitoring progress towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal and Aichi Biodiversity Targets relevant to fisheries. The Committee also reiterated its support to the work of FAO on commercially-exploited aquatic species of interest to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).⁴⁷

70. The Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) participated at the 12th meeting of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions held in September 2017, in Rome, Italy. The IPPC Secretariat signed with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity a joint work programme (2017-2018) to strengthen cooperation between the two Secretariats. The joint work plan identified major activities to be undertaken in 2017 and 2018 to help address challenges faced by both conventions. The major activities for cooperation were:

(a) Participation in Governing Body Meetings: the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity participated in the 13th Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) held in April 2018 in Rome, and the IPPC Secretariat is attending COP-14 of the Convention on Biological Diversity. IPPC Secretariat also contributed virtually to the meeting of the Inter-Agency Liaison Group on Invasive Alien Species held in July 2018;

(b) Global Taxonomy Initiative Training: the IPPC Secretariat contributed to the Global Taxonomy Initiative Training held in August 2018 in Sri Lanka. The IPPC Secretariat resource person provided capacity-building session for plant quarantine officers for the rapid identification of insect pests in imported consignments;

(c) Comparison of Terms Used in the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, the Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms, and Other Relevant Instruments: In 2017, the IPPC Technical Panel for Glossary (TPG) reviewed by e-decision (TPG_2017-08_e-decision_01) the entries associated with the IPPC in the draft compilation of terms used in the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, the Glossary of Phytosanitary Terms, and other Relevant Instruments, which was initiated by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity. The IPPC Secretariat had sent the outcome of the TPG review to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

(d) Expert meetings regarding e-commerce; and Promotion of partnership and communication: The IPPC Secretariat recently signed an agreement with the World Customs Organization (WCO) on several issues, including e-commerce. As WCO has a working group on e-Commerce, the IPPC Secretariat has agreed that the WCO will take the global lead and the IPPC Secretariat will try to participate in this group. The IPPC CPM Bureau is drafting the “E-commerce project work plan and budget” for the next five years and plans to present this to CPM-14.

71. The IPPC Secretariat also cooperated with Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity for promotion of the IPPC 2018 Annual Theme “*Plant Health and Environmental Protection*”. The CBD Executive Secretary delivered a keynote speech at the CPM-13 on Plant Health and Environment Protection. A Special Topics Session on Plant Health and Environment Protection was held during the

⁴⁵ <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1068636/icode/>

⁴⁶ <http://www.fao.org/wiews/en/>

⁴⁷ C 2019/23 Report of the 33rd Session of the Committee on Fisheries paragraphs 29, 76, 88

13th Session of the Commission for Phytosanitary Measures demonstrated the relevance and linkage between plant health, environmental protection, climate change, and the impact of plant pests on the biodiversity. A side session was also jointly organized by both secretariats on “Plant Health and Environmental Protection – Strengthening collaboration for Plant Health and achieving Aichi Biodiversity Targets by 2020 at all levels”. The side session aimed at informing IPPC contracting parties and stakeholders about the high potential of synergy and collaborative space for national plant protection organizations and environmental protection agencies at the national and regional levels, and about outcomes and plans of the IPPC Secretariat’s collaboration with other environmental-related organizations. The IPPC and CBD secretariats have ongoing collaboration to advocate and promote the 2020 International Year for Plant Health and the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity. Different side sessions were jointly organized.

72. In relation to the COP MOP 9 item 15 Risk assessment and risk management (Articles 15 and 16), the IPPC participated in the Online Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management in February 2018 and responded to the comments provided by the Forum. The Secretariat also participated in the previous years and ensured that people are aware about the IPPC and the International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) for Pest Risk Analysis (PRA) that also tackles invasive alien species.

73. In relation to the COP MOP 9 item 17 Transit and contained use of living modified organisms (LMOs) (Article 6.), the IPPC published in February 2016 a guide, “Overview on International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) and their application to LMOs”. The IPPC Secretariat also has ongoing work with CBD on Sea Containers and e-Commerce.

Annex I

FAO REPORTS, EVENTS, PROJECTS, GUIDELINES AND TOOLS

Reports

- The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2018 <http://www.fao.org/state-of-fisheries-aquaculture/en/>
- The future of food and agriculture 2018 – Alternative pathways to 2050. Rome. 224 pp. License: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO. <http://www.fao.org/3/I8429EN/i8429en.pdf>
- The State of the World's Forests 2018 <http://www.fao.org/state-of-forests/en/>
- World Livestock: Transforming the livestock sector through the Sustainable Development Goals <http://www.fao.org/3/CA1201EN/ca1201en.pdf>
- Soil Pollution: A Hidden Reality. <http://www.fao.org/3/I9183EN/i9183en.pdf>
- FAO and the International Water Management Institute 2017. Water pollution from agriculture: a global review <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i7754e.pdf>
- FAO, European Investment Bank 2018. Strengthening sustainable food systems through geographical indications. An analysis of economic impacts <http://www.fao.org/3/I8737EN/i8737en.pdf>
- FAO, GSP. 2017. Global soil map, <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1071012/icode/>

Events and projects

- FAO, Slovenia 2018: World Bee day <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1132329/icode/> , <https://www.worldbeeday.org/en/>
- Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) International Forum) in April 2018 brings to 50 the total number of GIAHS worldwide <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1118449/icode/>
- 2nd International Agroecology Symposium <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1114099/icode/>
- European Union-ACP Sustainable Wildlife Management Programme, €45 million initiative seeks to curb unsustainable wildlife hunting, conserve biodiversity and improve food security <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1042762/icode/>
- African Orphan Crop Consortium (AOCC), an African-led, international consortium founded by the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and Mars, Incorporated are sequencing the genomes of 101 African underutilized crops and making this information publicly available. <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1032516/icode/>

Guidelines and tools

- FAO. 2018. Transforming Food and Agriculture to Achieve the SDGs: 20 interconnected actions to guide decision-makers. <http://www.fao.org/publications/transforming-food-agriculture-to-achieve-sdg/en/>
- FAO. 2018. Transforming Food and Agriculture to Achieve the SDGs: 20 interconnected actions to guide decision-makers. Technical Reference Document. Rome. 132 pp. Licence: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO. <http://www.fao.org/3/CA1647EN/ca1647en.pdf>
- Online course *Mainstreaming Biodiversity for Food and Nutrition: Benefits for agriculture, health and livelihoods*, <http://www.b4fn.org/e-learning/>
- New online platform for reporting on the status and trends of the world's forest resources that will be used for the next 2020 Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) report <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1105144/icode/>
- Voluntary Guidelines for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Crop Wild Relatives and Wild Food Plants <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1053481/icode/>
- Launch of the New The Domestic Animal Diversity Information System (DAD-IS), the most complete source of global information on animal genetic diversity to date. <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1068636/icode/>
- New FAO online data tool to improve understanding of Official Development Assistance (ODA) funding flows in food and agriculture-related sectors – including thematic areas as diverse as the environment, education and women's equality. <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1069021/icode/>
- Climate-Smart Agriculture web platform and online Climate-Smart Agriculture Sourcebook - Second Edition 2017 - <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1056527/icode/>
- The Voluntary Guidelines on National Forest Monitoring aim to support countries in collecting, compiling and analysing data on forest resources to enable them to adopt evidence-based policies and practices, which will help them to achieve sustainable management of forest resources in line with the Sustainable Development Goals. <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1025728/icode/>
- FAO. 2017. Addressing agriculture, forestry and fisheries in national adaptation plans. Supplementary guidelines. <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i6714e.pdf>, <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/885034/icode/>
