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Item 21 of the provisional agenda*

FOREST BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Elaboration of elements for an expanded work programme on forest biological diversity – relation to the existing work programme, activities of the United Nations Forum on Forests, and framework for selecting priorities and defining activities

Note by the Executive Secretary

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present note has been prepared to assist the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting in its consideration of item 21 on the provisional agenda, which relates to forest biological diversity. In particular, the present note addresses the work programme on forest biological diversity adopted by decision IV/7, the comparison between this work programme and the elements for an expanded work programme recommended by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) in its recommendation VII/6, as well as collaboration with other international forest processes.

2. At its fourth meeting, held in 1998, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity launched a programme of work on forest biodiversity focused on research, cooperation and development of technologies necessary for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity of all types of forests (decision IV/7). At its fifth meeting, held in 2000, the Conference of the Parties decided to consider expanding the focus of the work programme from research to practical action. It established an Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on Forest Biological Diversity to provide, for the consideration of the SBSSTA, information that could be useful in considering the expansion of the programme of work.

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3. The Expert Group reviewed the status and trends of, and major threats to, forest biological diversity (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/INF/3). The Group also identified options for the assessment and monitoring of forest biological diversity, the conservation and sustainable use of its components, and for meeting the institutional and socio-economic requirements for the successful implementation of the identified measures (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/6).

4. At its seventh meeting, the SBSTTA recommended that the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting adopt an expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity, using the elements contained in annex I to recommendation VII/6, and the inter-sessional work of the Executive Secretary described in paragraph 2 of decision IV/7. Drawing upon the work of the AHTEG and seeking comments from Parties, the Bureau, and members of the AHTEG, the Executive Secretary is also requested to prepare, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting, a report identifying:

(a) Elements in the work programme adopted by decision IV/7 of relevance to the expanded work programme, and how these may be incorporated in the expanded programme of work, also taking into account the multi-year programme of work and plan of action of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF); and

(b) Potential actors, a suggested timeframe and possible ways and means for implementation of the activities proposed, as well as indicators of progress in implementation, taking into account the potential for collaborative work with other bodies.

5. In paragraph 4 of recommendation VII/6, SBSTTA welcomed the offer by the Government of Ghana to host a workshop to explore opportunities for collaboration among the Convention on Biological Diversity, the UNFF and the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF).

6. The present note reports on the relevance of the elements in the work programme adopted by decision IV/7 to the expanded work programme (section II); the relationship of activities under the Convention on Biological Diversity to the UNFF multi-year programme of work (section III); and presents a framework for selecting priorities and defining activities in the elaboration of the elements for an expanded work programme (section IV).

7. A detailed description of actors, timeframes, ways and means, and indicators of progress in implementing the activities suggested in the proposed elements for an expanded work programme on forest biological diversity (SBSTTA recommendation VII/6, annex) will be presented separately, as an information document. Drawing on this information, and using approaches and guiding principles presented in this note, as well as views and suggestions submitted by Parties on potential priorities for the proposed expanded work programme, a draft expanded work programme on forest biological diversity will be elaborated and presented as an addendum to this document.

8. The Conference of the Parties is invited to consider SBSTTA recommendation VII/6 on this topic, as contained in annex I to the report of the seventh meeting of the Subsidiary Body (UNEP/CBD/COP/6/4) and in the compilation of draft decisions for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting (UNEP/CBD/COP/6/1/Add.2).

II. ELEMENTS IN THE WORK PROGRAMME ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES IN ITS DECISION IV/7 OF RELEVANCE TO THE EXPANDED WORK PROGRAMME

9. This section of the document discusses issues relating to the Convention's programme of work on forest biological diversity. Initially, both the content and national-level implementation of the existing work

programme adopted by decision IV/7 are discussed. Subsequently, elements of this work programme are compared with the elements for the new, expanded work programme, as requested by the SBSTTA in its recommendation VII/6.

A. *The work programme adopted by the Conference of the Parties in its decision IV/7*

10. The programme of work on forest biological diversity (hereinafter referred to as “the existing programme of work”) was adopted by the Conference of the Parties in its decision IV/7 at its fourth meeting, held in Bratislava in May 1998. In line with the request to the Executive Secretary in paragraph 6 of decision III/12, the existing programme of work focuses on research, cooperation and development of technologies necessary for the conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity of all types of forests. The introduction to the programme gives details concerning objectives, timeframe, review and planning process, ways and means and collaborative efforts.

11. The existing programme of work has four elements, namely:

(a) Holistic and inter-sectoral ecosystem approaches that integrate the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking into account social and cultural and economic considerations;

(b) Comparative analysis of the ways in which human activities, in particular forest-management practices, influence biological diversity and assessment of ways to minimize or mitigate negative influences;

(c) Methodologies necessary to advance the elaboration and implementation of criteria and indicators for forest biological diversity;

(d) Further research and technological priorities identified in SBSTTA recommendation II/8, as well as issues identified in the review and planning process under the work programme. These priorities include:

(i) Analysing measures for minimizing or mitigating the underlying causes of forest biological diversity loss;

(ii) Assessing ecological landscape models, the integration of protected areas in the ecosystem approach to sustainable forest management, and the representativeness and adequacy of protected areas networks; and

(iii) Advancing scientific and technical approaches.

12. Under each of these four elements, additional elements relating to research and development of technologies are presented. In the section on research, activities, ways and means and expected outcomes are set out in detail.

B. *Implementation of the work programme*

13. National-level implementation of the existing programme of work, adopted in 1998, was evaluated in November 2000. In response to decision V/7 of the Conference of the Parties, the Executive Secretary sent a questionnaire to Parties, based on the elements of decision IV/7. This questionnaire formed the thematic report on forest biological diversity. A synthesis of information from the thematic reports submitted by Parties as of 10 October 2001 was presented to the seventh meeting of the SBSTTA as an information document (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/INF/5).

14. The majority of developed countries responded to the questionnaire, while the proportion of the developing countries and countries with economies in transition that responded was low. Consequently, an analysis of the results can only give indicative trends regarding the implementation of the programme of work

15. The results suggest that implementation of the programme of work has progressed to a larger extent in developed countries than in other countries. Although many developing countries and countries with economies in transition have conducted inventories, assessments and research projects, their implementation of the programme of work remains, in general, severely hindered by lack of resources and capacity.

16. A number of countries, however, have made significant progress in implementing most areas of the programme of work. These countries, which usually have adequate capacity, have carried out assessments and forest inventories, and have conducted research programmes. This clearly highlights the importance of capacity-building and an enabling socio-economic and scientific environment for the successful implementation of the work programme.

17. The progress reported was to a great degree achieved in the mid- and late 1990s, evidently resulting from work during the post-Rio processes, particularly under the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests/Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IPF/IFF) proposals for action. In addition, regional processes have catalysed and promoted advances in national policies, research and development activities, and criteria and indicator processes. This highlights the important role of collaborative activities in the implementation of the work programme.

18. Although national reports rarely present broader sets of targets for conservation and sustainable use of forests in an explicit manner, targets concerning protected forests and forest cover were mentioned. In a number of countries with low forest cover, the national targets consist of increasing forest cover, restoring forests, and enhancing the multifunctionality of forest management and ecosystem-based forestry.

19. Important progress made in elements of the existing programme of work can be highlighted as follows:

- (a) Development of national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- (b) Development of national forest programmes;
- (c) Review of forest legislation, in some cases together with legislation relating to nature conservation;
- (d) Carrying out of forest inventories including biodiversity elements in a number of countries;
- (e) Production and dissemination of guidance for forest planning and forest management;
- (f) Restoration activities;
- (g) Enhancement of national and international research and development activities; and
- (h) Stakeholder participation in practices related to forestry has taken place to an increasing extent in many countries.

20. Because the responses to the questionnaire were variable, progress made in national-level implementation of the various elements of the existing work programme cannot be given in quantitative terms. Some activities of the existing programme of work, and by extension the questions in the questionnaire relating to these activities, are defined so broadly that Parties have given various interpretations of their content (for example, in response to paragraphs 13 and 14 of the questionnaire). As a result, it is difficult to report on the state of their implementation in a detailed way. The second main difficulty is the general timeframe given in decision IV/7.

C. Comparison of elements in the existing work programme and in the elements for an expanded work programme on forest biological diversity

21. At its seventh meeting, SBSTTA recommended that the Conference of the Parties adopt an expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity. The present section compares the activities of the existing work programme and the elements for an expanded work programme, as requested by SBSTTA in annex I to its recommendation VII/7. The comparison examines each element of the existing work programme separately, and evaluates the degree to which its activities are covered by the elements for an expanded work programme. Finally, new and additional activities in the elements for an expanded work programme are discussed.

Element 1: Holistic and intersectoral ecosystem approaches that integrate the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking account of social and cultural and economic considerations

22. The activities of element 1 (decision IV/7, annex, paras. 13-17) are covered under the research-oriented parts of programme element 1 of the expanded work programme, which deals with conservation, sustainable use and benefit-sharing. A majority of these activities appear under goal 1 (To apply the ecosystem approach to the management of all types of forests) and goal 4 (To promote the sustainable use of forest biological diversity) of the elements for an expanded work programme.

23. However, one activity in programme element 1 of the existing work programme is only partly covered in the elements for an expanded work programme. This activity is entitled “Sharing relevant technical and scientific information on networks at all levels of protected areas, and networking modalities, taking into account existing national, regional and international networks and structures, in all types of forest ecosystems”. It is evident, though, that the wording of this activity is somewhat obscure and hard to interpret, and activities relating to both protected areas and to the development and management of databases are included in several sections of the elements for an expanded work programme.

Element 2: Comprehensive analysis of the ways in which human activities, in particular forest-management practices, influence biological diversity and assessment of ways to minimize or mitigate negative influences

24. The activities of element 2 (decision IV/7, annex, paras. 33-35) of the existing work programme are covered in much greater detail by the various objectives under goal 2 (To reduce the threats and mitigate the impacts of threatening processes on forest biological diversity), and in part under goal 3 (To protect, recover and restore forest biological diversity) of the elements for an expanded work programme. In addition, the activities in the elements for an expanded work programme are more concrete and action-oriented.

Element 3: Methodologies necessary to advance the elaboration and implementation of criteria and indicators for forest biological diversity

25. Activities related to indicators (decision IV/7, annex, para. 43) in element 3 of the existing work programme are covered in detail by proposed element 3 for an expanded programme (Knowledge, assessment and monitoring). Specifically, the activities can be found under goal 2 (To improve knowledge on and methods for the assessment of the status and trends of forest biological diversity, based on available information) of the elements for an expanded work programme.

26. However, the second activity under element 3 in the existing programme of work (The need for taxonomic studies and inventories at the national level that provide for a basic assessment of forest biological diversity) is not completely covered by the activities in the elements for an expanded work programme, as the activities do not equally state clearly the need to develop taxonomic studies in an equal manner.

Element 4: Further research and technological priorities identified in SBSTTA recommendation II/8, as well as issues identified in the review and planning process under the work programme

27. Activities under element 4 of the existing programme of work (decision IV/7, annex, paras. 51-56), including input from the IFF on priorities, are covered to a great extent by a number of goals in the elements for an expanded work programme. Under programme element 1, the relevant elements are goal 2 (To reduce the threats and mitigate the impacts of threatening processes on forest biological diversity); goal 3 (To protect, recover and restore forest biological diversity); and goal 5 (Access to and benefit-sharing of forest genetic resources). In addition, some activities in element 4 relate to programme element 2 (Institutional and socio-economic enabling environment) of the elements for an expanded programme of work, and in particular to goal 1 (To improve the understanding of the various causes of forest biological diversity loss).

New activities in the proposed elements for an expanded work programme not covered by the existing work programme

28. The suggested elements for an expanded work programme present a shift in focus from research to practical action. The elements also include many new priority areas not covered by the existing work programme. In programme element 1, a number of additional threats to forest biological diversity are more clearly articulated. These threats include climate change and pollution. Another related new objective is the need to mitigate the effects of the loss of natural disturbances (such as fire, wind-throw and floods) necessary to maintain biodiversity in regions where these disturbances no longer occur. Activities to promote the sustainable use of forest biological diversity are also more clearly addressed, as are the conservation and sustainable use of forest genetic resources.

29. The elements for an expanded work programme also elaborate on a number of goals and activities addressing the institutional and socio-economic enabling environment (programme element 2). These elements, which include issues such as good governance practices, illegal logging, illegal exploitation of non-timber forest resources, and socio-economic failures and distortions that lead to decisions that result in loss of forest biological diversity are relatively poorly represented in the existing work programme.

30. Priorities that are clearer than those in the existing work programme are set in programme element 3 of the elements for an expanded work programme (e.g. in respect of short and medium-term monitoring and assessment activities). In addition, the connection between these activities and the conservation and sustainable use of forest ecosystems is made clearer.

Summary

31. In conclusion, it can be said that the elements for an expanded work programme cover in much greater detail all the activities in the existing work programme, with the exception of two activities, which are only partly covered. These activities relate to information-sharing on networks at all levels of protected areas (decision IV/7, annex, para. 18) and the need to develop taxonomic studies (decision IV/7, annex, para. 21). Of these two, the missing taxonomic component is perhaps the most serious omission in the elements for an expanded work programme, and it is recommended that additional activities in this respect be considered, perhaps in collaboration with the Global Taxonomy Initiative. In general, however, the activities set out in the elements for an expanded work programme are more concrete and thus easier to implement. They are also more action-oriented, and present many additional activities in new and topical priority areas.

III. RELATIONSHIP OF THE ELEMENTS FOR AN EXPANDED WORK PROGRAMME TO THE MULTI-YEAR PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PLAN OF ACTION OF THE UNFF

32. The present section focuses on collaboration with other major international processes of relevance to forest biological diversity. In particular, the multi-year programme of work and plan of action of the UNFF is discussed in detail, and the UNFF and the Convention work programmes are compared in order to highlight areas presenting opportunities for future collaboration. Opportunities for collaboration between these two processes and the CPF are also discussed, and will be further explored in the results of the technical expert workshop on forest biodiversity, held in Accra from 28 to 30 January 2002.

A. *The multi-year programme of work of the UNFF*

33. By its resolution 2000/35 of 18 October 2000, the Economic and Social Council decided to establish the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) as a subsidiary body of the Council. The main objective of this international arrangement on forests is to promote the management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests and to strengthen long-term political commitment to this end. Within five years, the Forum would, *inter alia*, consider the parameters of a mandate for developing a legal framework on all types of forests with a view to recommending them to the General Council and, through it, to the General Assembly. At its first session, held from 11 to 22 June 2001, the Forum adopted three resolutions concerning its multi-year programme of work for 2001-2005, the development of a plan of action, and its work with the Collaborative Forum on Forests. ^{1/}

34. The multi-year programme of work of the UNFF implements Council resolution 2000/35, and includes concrete activities to be undertaken by the Forum over the five-year period between 2001 and 2005 aimed at fulfilling the principal functions of the Forum. In particular, the activities implement the proposals for action of the IPF/IFF at the national, regional and global levels, and provide a forum for policy guidance and coordination, as well as for addressing means of implementation and common items for each session of the UNFF.

^{1/} The following are the members of the CPF: Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity; Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR); Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (DESA)/UNFF Secretariat; Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); Global Environment Facility (GEF) Secretariat; International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO); Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the World Bank.

35. The multi-year programme of work of the UNFF for 2001-2005 reflects the overall objectives of sustainable forest management, and each session of the Forum will address its principal functions, with particular emphasis on the implementation of the proposals for action of the IPF and the IFF (E/2002/42/Rev.1 and E/CN.18/2001/3/Rev.1).

36. Resolution 1/1 of the UNFF contains a decision on the adoption of the UNFF plan of action included in the annex to the multi-year programme of work. The plan of action presents, *inter alia*, activities at the national level, activities of the CPF and its members, targets, and activities related to reporting. Activities are presented under 16 elements, which include common items, required financial resources and other means of implementation.

37. According to decision IV/7 of the Conference of the Parties, one of the objectives of the existing work programme on forest biological diversity is to contribute to ongoing work in other international and regional organizations and processes. In particular, this relates to the implementation of the proposals for action of the IPF and the provision of input to the IFF. The implementation of the IPF/IFF proposals is the main task of the UNFF. The most important way for the Convention to implement IPF/IFF proposals is through its work programme on forest biological diversity. As a member of the CPF, the Secretariat of the Convention is invited to support the work of the Forum and to present a concrete and coordinated proposal to assist the implementation of the IPF/IFF proposals for action. The member organizations of the Partnership are also invited to contribute actively to the implementation of the IPF/IFF proposals for action, *inter alia* through their technical and financial resources.

B. Areas of collaboration between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the UNFF

38. The elements for an expanded work programme on forest biological diversity include three programme elements, 12 goals, 27 objectives and 130 activities. In the UNFF multi-year programme of work and plan of action, the UNFF activities to implement the IPF/IFF proposals for action have been grouped into 16 elements. For each of the elements, a focal agency is proposed which would assume a coordinating role on the particular issue in the framework of the CPF.

39. For each of the 16 elements in the UNFF multi-year programme of work, the table in annex I to this document presents a series of corresponding objectives of the elements of the expanded work programme on forest biological diversity, as well as the focal agency proposed.

40. On the basis of this comparison, most proposed activities in the elements for an expanded work programme address the following elements in the UNFF multi-year programme of work. The UNFF element number is in parentheses.

- (a) Combating deforestation and forest degradation (element 3);
- (b) Criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management (element 7);
- (c) Forest conservation and protection of unique types of forests and fragile ecosystems (element 9);
- (d) Monitoring, assessment and reporting, and concepts, terminology and definitions (element 10);
- (e) Formulation and implementation of national forest programmes (element 1);
- (f) Traditional forest-related knowledge.

41. These elements directly address the loss of forest biological diversity or its conservation. Element 1 of the UNFF multi-year programme of work is crucial for formulation of forest policies and practices, which should be integrated to a greater degree with the national biodiversity strategies and action plans. Criteria and indicators (element 7) and monitoring, assessment and reporting (element 10) are crucial for assessing status and trends of forest biological diversity, and as the bases for targeted actions. The Convention is the focal agency in the CPF framework for activities related to traditional forest-related knowledge (element 4).

42. Other elements in the UNFF multi-year programme of work do not address the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity as directly. It would, however, be in the interests of the Convention if aspects of conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity were integrated in these elements. In particular, economic, social and cultural aspects of forests (element 8); rehabilitation and conservation strategies for countries with low forest cover (element 11); rehabilitation and restoration of degraded lands, and the promotion of natural and planted forests (element 12); and maintaining forest cover to meet present and future needs (element 13) have many important interlinkages with the priority interest areas outlined above. Element 16 (International cooperation in capacity-building and access to and transfer of environmentally-sound technologies to support sustainable forest management) is also very important from the viewpoint of forest biological diversity. Conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity is possible only within the framework of good governance, well-developed forest and conservation sectors, and adequate human resources.

C. Opportunities for collaboration among the Convention on Biological Diversity, UNFF and CPF

43. In paragraph 4 of recommendation VII/6, SBSTTA welcomed the offer by the Government of Ghana to host a workshop to explore opportunities for collaboration among the Convention on Biological Diversity, the UNFF and the CPF. Accordingly, the Executive Secretary invited Parties and international organizations to a technical expert workshop on forests and biological diversity, which was held in Accra from 28 to 30 January 2002. The workshop was organized as a collaborative effort among the secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity and UNFF and the Government of Ghana, with financial support from the Government of the Netherlands.

44. The main objectives of the workshop were: (i) to share experiences and facilitate synergy between the draft programme of work on forest biological diversity under the Convention on Biological Diversity and the UNFF multi-year programme of work and plan of action; and (ii) to consider ways and means of integrating conservation and sustainable use of forests into various national policies beyond the conservation and forestry sectors.

45. The expected results of the workshop were: (i) a list of elements for possible joint programmes between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the UNFF, and with the other members of the CPF; and (ii) a short document or guidelines on ensuring successful cross-sectoral implementation of forest programmes and projects at the national level. These results will be forwarded to both the second session of the UNFF, to be held in Costa Rica in March 2002, and to the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as information documents.

IV. FRAMEWORK FOR SELECTING PRIORITIES AND DEFINING ACTIVITIES: GOALS, APPROACHES AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

46. In recommendation VII/6, SBSTTA requested the Executive Secretary to identify potential actors, suggested priorities and possible ways and means for implementation of the activities proposed in the elements for an expanded work programme. In addition, indicators of progress in implementation were to be identified. The present section presents a preliminary framework for setting targets, selecting priorities, and ensuring adequate participation and support, as well as developing synergies and collaboration with other programmes or work. A more detailed prioritization of the elements for an expanded work programme will be prepared once comments from Parties have been received, and will be presented to the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties as an information document.

47. The overall goal of the expanded work programme on forest biological diversity is to promote implementation of the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity in all types of forest ecosystems, with the following specific goals, which directly address the loss of forest biological diversity:

(a) Reduce the rate of and ultimately halt forest biodiversity loss; and

(b) Mitigate the negative impacts of deforestation and forest degradation, including the restoration and rehabilitation of forest biodiversity where it has been lost or degraded

48. The activities outlined in the elements for an expanded work programme on forest biological diversity require long-term implementation and should be subject to periodic review and development, including the work in future phases. The prioritized activities outlined in the expanded work programme should be implemented in the short and medium terms (2002-2012).

49. The ecosystem approach is the primary framework for planning and implementation of the activities for the conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity. The application of this approach requires, *inter alia*, intersectoral cooperation, decentralization of management to the lowest level appropriate, and the use of adaptive management policies that can deal with uncertainties and are modified in the light of experience and changing conditions. The implementation process will build upon the knowledge, innovations and practices of local communities and will require a multidisciplinary approach that takes into account scientific, social and economic issues. There is also a clear need for clarification of the links between the ecosystem approach and sustainable forest management.

50. The most important part of the work programme will be implemented at the national level, bearing in mind the varied circumstances of Parties, which implies that inclusion of an activity in the work programme does not necessarily imply participation in that activity by all Parties.

A. *Targets*

51. For the work programme to be effectively implemented, targets are essential for prioritized activities. The targets contained in the work programme are proposed at the global level and can serve as guidance for targets to be set at the national level. The latter should, as appropriate, preferably be subject to commitment and agreement at the international and regional levels. With regard to plant species, targets proposed in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/10 and SBSTTA recommendation VII/8 on a global strategy for plant conservation, are also taken into account. Relevant activities with defined targets should be effectively incorporated into national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national forest programmes.

52. In the short to medium terms, targets can be more clearly defined in the first (conservation, sustainable use and benefit-sharing) and third (knowledge, monitoring and assessment) programme elements of the expanded programme of work, while targets in the second programme element will follow in the longer term. Targets should be defined on the basis of the SMART-concept (Specific, Measurable, Accountable, Realistic and Time-bound), with clearly defined actors, and ways and means of reaching them.

B. Prioritization

53. The focus in priority-setting is on efficiency and on proposed activities in conservation and sustainable use of forests, as well as in ensuring equitable sharing of benefits. Activities prioritized as urgent should address biodiversity conservation efforts of the most endangered and environmentally significant forest ecosystems and species, in particular primary forests and ecologically valuable secondary forests.

C. Adequate participation, support and funding

54. Actors for activities should be defined bearing in mind that all relevant stakeholders should implement the expanded work programme. It is especially important to facilitate adequate participation of indigenous and local communities, and to respect their rights and interests. It is important to ensure capacity-building and the provision of adequate financial, human and technical resources to allow implementation of the work programme by all relevant stakeholders.

D. Synergy and collaboration

55. In defining actors and prioritizing activities, the need to achieve synergies and avoid duplication between the work of the key international bodies, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity, the UNFF and the members of the CPF should be recognized. The priorities, timeframes, actors, ways and means, and outputs of the expanded work programme should take into account the timeframes and work of these bodies. One main aim of the implementation of the expanded work programme is to foster collaboration and promote coordination among the above key international bodies and other national, regional and international organizations, including environmental groups and organizations representing local and indigenous communities

56. It is also important to ensure harmony with other work programmes in the thematic and cross-cutting issues addressed by the Convention on Biological Diversity, including in particular the work on Article 8(j); and on monitoring, assessments and indicators; invasive alien species; sustainable use; agricultural biodiversity; mountain biodiversity; dry and sub-humid land biodiversity and inland water ecosystems.

57. Because the most important part of the work programme will be implemented at the national level, development of collaboration and participation of all relevant stakeholders is of crucial importance. At the national level, collaboration among governmental bodies dealing with forests and those dealing, *inter alia*, with environment, agriculture, tourism, trade, energy and science and technology sector should be promoted.

Annex

ACTIVITIES UNDER THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY IN THE CONTEXT OF THE 16 ELEMENTS IN THE UNFF MULTI-YEAR PROGRAMME OF WORK

<i>UNFF elements</i>	<i>Focal agency in CPF</i>	<i>CBD activities, including those proposed in the draft expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity (SBSTTA recommendation VII/6, annex)</i>
1. Formulation and implementation of national forest programmes	FAO	<p>Element 1, goal 3, objective 3: Ensure adequate and effective protected forest area networks – also UNFF 9</p> <p>Element 1, goal 4, objective 3: Enable indigenous and local communities to develop and implement adaptive community-management systems to conserve and sustainably use forest biological diversity – also UNFF 4, 8.</p> <p>Element 2, goal 1, objective 2: Parties, Governments and organizations to integrate biological diversity conservation and sustainable use into forest and other sector policies and programmes.</p> <p>Element 2, goal 1, objective 3: Parties and Governments to develop good governance practices, review, revise and implement forest and forest-related laws, tenure and planning systems, to provide a sound basis for conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity.</p> <p>Element 2, goal 1, objective 4: Combat illegal logging, illegal exploitation of non-timber forest products, illegal exploitation of genetic resources, and related trade.</p> <p>Element 2, goal 2, objective 1: Mitigate the economic failures and distortions that lead to decisions that result in loss of forest biological diversity.</p>
2. Promoting public participation	DESA, UNEP	<p>CBD clearing-house mechanism; CBD ecosystem approach in general.</p> <p>Element 2, goal 3, objective 1: Increase public support and understanding of the value of forest biological diversity and its goods and services at all levels.</p> <p>Element 1, goal 1, objective 1 – see UNFF 7 (aspects of participation by all stakeholders); Element 1, goal 2, objective 4 – see UNFF 3; Element 1, goal 3, objective 3 – see UNFF 1, 9; Element 1, goal 4, objective 1 – see UNFF 3; Element 1, goal 4, objective 3 – see UNFF 1, 4, 8.</p>

<i>UNFF elements</i>	<i>Focal agency in CPF</i>	<i>CBD activities, including those proposed in the draft expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity (SBSTTA recommendation VII/6, annex)</i>
3. Combating deforestation and forest degradation	UNEP	<p>Element 1, goal 2, objective 1: Prevent the introduction of invasive alien species that threaten ecosystems, and mitigate their negative impacts on forest biological diversity in accordance with international law.</p> <p>Element 1, goal 2, objective 2: Mitigate the impact of pollution such as acidification and eutrophication on forest biodiversity.</p> <p>Element 1, goal 2, objective 3: Mitigate the negative impacts of climate change on forest biodiversity.</p> <p>Element 1, goal 2, objective 4: Prevent and mitigate the adverse effects of forest fires and fire suppression.</p> <p>Element 1, goal 2, objective 5: Mitigate effects of the loss of natural disturbances necessary to maintain biodiversity in regions where these no longer occur.</p> <p>Element 1, goal 2, objective 6: Prevent and mitigate losses due to fragmentation and conversion to other land uses.</p> <p>Element 1, goal 3, objective 2: Promote forest management practices that further the conservation of endemic and threatened species - see UNFF 10.</p> <p>Element 1, goal 4, objective 1: Promote sustainable use of forest resources to enhance the conservation of forest biological diversity.</p> <p>Element 1, goal 4, objective 2: Prevent losses caused by unsustainable harvesting of timber and non-timber forest resources.</p> <p>Element 1, goal 4, objective 3: Enable indigenous and local communities to develop and implement adaptive community-management systems to conserve and sustainably use forest biological diversity.</p> <p>Element 2, goal 1, objective 3 – see UNFF 1.</p> <p>Element 2, goal 1, objective 4: Combat illegal logging, illegal exploitation of non-timber forest products, illegal exploitation of genetic resources, and related trade.</p> <p>Element 1, goal 1, objective 1 – see UNFF 7; Element 2,G1O3 – see UNFF 1; Element 2, goal 2, objective 1 – see UNFF 1.</p>

<i>UNFF elements</i>	<i>Focal agency in CPF</i>	<i>CBD activities, including those proposed in the draft expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity (SBSTTA recommendation VII/6, annex)</i>
4. Traditional Forest-Related Knowledge (TFRK)	CBD	<p>Implementation of Article 8(j).</p> <p>Element 1, goal 4, objective 1: Promote sustainable use of forest resources to enhance the conservation of forest biological diversity – also UNFF 3.</p> <p>Element 1, goal 4, objective 3: Enable indigenous and local communities to develop and implement adaptive community-management systems to conserve and sustainably use forest biological diversity – also UNFF 1, 8.</p> <p>Element 1, goal 5, objective 1: Promote the fair and equitable sharing of benefits resulting from the utilization of forest genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge.</p> <p>Element 2, goal 1, objective 3 – see UNFF 1.</p>
5. Forest-related scientific knowledge	CIFOR	<p>Element 1, goal 2, objective 3: Mitigate the negative impacts of climate change on forest biodiversity – also UNFF 3.</p> <p>Element 1, goal 4, objective 4: Develop effective and equitable information systems and strategies and promote implementation of those strategies for <i>in situ</i> and <i>ex situ</i> conservation and sustainable use of forest genetic diversity, and support countries in their implementation and monitoring.</p> <p>Element 3, goal 3, objective 1: Conduct key research programmes on the role of forest biodiversity and ecosystem functioning.</p> <p>Element 1, goal 3, objective 2 – see UNFF 3, 10.</p>
6. Forest health and productivity	FAO	<p>Element 1, goal 2, objective 3 – see UNFF 3; Element 1, goal 2, objective 6 – see UNFF 3; Element 1, goal 4, objective 1 – see UNFF 3.</p> <p>Element 2, goal 1, objective 4 – see UNFF 3.</p>

<i>UNFF elements</i>	<i>Focal agency in CPF</i>	<i>CBD activities, including those proposed in the draft expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity (SBSTTA recommendation VII/6, annex)</i>
7. Criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management	FAO, ITTO	<p>Assessments and indicators are cross-cutting issues in the work programmes of CBD.</p> <p>Element 1, goal 1, objective 1: Develop practical methods, guidelines, indicators and strategies to apply the ecosystem approach adapted to regional differences to forests both inside and outside protected forest areas, as well as in both managed and unmanaged forests.</p> <p>Element 1, goal 4, objective 1 – see UNFF 3, especially forest certification activities, demonstration activities.</p> <p>Element 3, goal 2, objective 1: Advance the development and implementation of international, regional and national criteria and indicators based on key regional, subregional and national measures within the framework of sustainable forest management.</p> <p>Element 2, goal 1, objective 2 – see UNFF 1.</p>
8. Economic, social and cultural aspects of forests	WB, CIFOR	<p>Element 1, goal 2, objective 3 – see UNFF 3.</p> <p>Element 1, goal 4/03: Enable indigenous and local communities to develop and implement adaptive community-management systems to conserve and sustainably use forest biological diversity.</p> <p>Element 1, goal 5, objective 1: Promote the fair and equitable sharing of benefits resulting from the utilization of forest genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge.</p> <p>Element 2, goal 1, objective 4: Combat illegal logging, illegal exploitation of non-timber forest products, illegal exploitation of genetic resources, and related trade.</p> <p>Element 1, goal 4, objective 1 – see UNFF 3; Element 1, goal 4, objective 2 – see UNFF 3; Element 2, goal 2, objective 1 – see UNFF 1.</p>
9. Forest conservation and protection of unique types of forests and fragile ecosystems	UNEP	<p>Implementation of articles 8 (<i>in-situ</i> conservation) and 10 (sustainable use) of the CBD.</p> <p>Element 1, goal 2, objective 5: Mitigate effects of the loss of natural disturbances necessary to maintain biodiversity in regions where these no longer occur – also UNFF 3.</p> <p>Element 1, goal 3, objective 3: Ensure adequate and effective protected forest area networks.</p> <p>Element 1, goal 4, objective 4: Develop effective and equitable information systems and strategies and promote implementation of those strategies for <i>in situ</i> and <i>ex situ</i> conservation and sustainable use of</p>

<i>UNFF elements</i>	<i>Focal agency in CPF</i>	<i>CBD activities, including those proposed in the draft expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity (SBSTTA recommendation VII/6, annex)</i>
		<p>forest genetic diversity, and support countries in their implementation and monitoring.</p> <p>Element 2, goal 1, objective 2: Parties, Governments and organizations to integrate biological diversity conservation and sustainable use into forest and other sector policies and programmes.</p> <p>Element 3, goal 1, objective 3: Develop, where appropriate, specific forest ecosystems surveys in priority areas for conservation and sustainable use of forest biodiversity – also UNFF 10.</p> <p>Element 2, goal 1, objective 3 – see UNFF 1.</p>
10. Monitoring, assessment and reporting, and concepts, terminology and definitions	FAO	<p>Essential elements in work programmes of CBD.</p> <p>Element 1, goal 3, objective 2: Promote forest management practices that further the conservation of endemic and threatened species.</p> <p>Element 1, goal 4, objective 4: Develop effective and equitable information systems and strategies and promote implementation of those strategies for <i>in situ</i> and <i>ex situ</i> conservation and sustainable use of forest genetic diversity, and support countries in their implementation and monitoring.</p> <p>Element 2, goal 1, objective 1: Improve the understanding of the various causes of forest biodiversity loss – also UNFF 5.</p> <p>Element 3, goal 1, objective 1: Review and adopt a harmonized global to regional forest classification system, based on harmonized and accepted forest definitions and addressing key forest biological diversity elements.</p> <p>Element 3, goal 1, objective 2: Develop national forest classification systems and maps (using agreed international standards and protocols to enable regional and global synthesis).</p> <p>Element 3, goal 1, objective 3: Develop, where appropriate, specific forest ecosystems surveys in priority areas for conservation and sustainable use of forest biodiversity.</p> <p>Element 3, goal 4, objective 1: Enhance and improve the technical capacity at the national level to monitor forest biological diversity, benefiting from the opportunities offered through the CHM, and develop associated databases, as required, on a global scale.</p> <p>Element 1, goal 2, objective 1 – see UNFF 3; Element 1, goal 2, objective 2 – see UNFF 3; Element 1, goal 2, objective 4 – see UNFF 3; Element 1, goal 3, objective 1 – see UNFF 12; Element 1, goal 3, objective 3</p>

<i>UNFF elements</i>	<i>Focal agency in CPF</i>	<i>CBD activities, including those proposed in the draft expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity (SBSTTA recommendation VII/6, annex)</i>
		– see UNFF 9.
11. Rehabilitation and conservation strategies for countries with low forest cover	UNEP	Element 1, goal 3, objective 1: Restore forest biological diversity in degraded secondary forests and in forests established on former forestlands and other landscapes, including in plantations. Also UNFF 12.
<i>UNFF elements</i>	<i>Focal agency in CPF</i>	<i>CBD activities, including those proposed in the draft expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity (SBSTTA recommendation VII/6, annex)</i>
12. Rehabilitation and restoration of degraded lands, and the promotion of natural and planted forests	FAO	Element 1, goal 3, objective 1: Restore forest biological diversity in degraded secondary forests and in forests established on former forestlands and other landscapes, including in plantations. Element 1, goal 2, objective 4 – see UNFF 3; Element 1, goal 2, objective 5 – see UNFF 3; Element 1, goal 3, objective 3 – see UNFF 9.
13. Maintaining forest cover to meet present and future needs	DESA	<i>In situ</i> conservation, sustainable use and ecosystem approach. Element 1, goal 2, objective 3 – see UNFF 3. Element 1, goal 2, objective 6 – Prevent and mitigate losses due to fragmentation and conversion to other land uses – also UNFF 3. Element 1, goal 3, objective 3 – see UNFF 9.
14. Financial resources	World Bank, GEF	Element 2, goal 1, objective 2 – see UNFF 1; Element 2, goal 1, objective 4 – see UNFF 1; Element 2, goal 2, objective 1 – see UNFF 1; Element 2, goal 3/01 – see UNFF 2.
15. International trade and sustainable forest management	ITTO	Element 1, goal 4, objective 2: Prevent losses caused by unsustainable harvesting of timber and non-timber forest resources. Element 2, goal 1, objective 4: Combat illegal logging, illegal exploitation of non-timber forest products, illegal exploitation of genetic resources, and related trade.
16. International cooperation in capacity-building and access to and transfer of environmentally sound technologies to support sustainable forest management	FAO	Important aspect in CBD work programmes; implementation of Article 18 (technical and scientific cooperation); CBD CHM; Element 1, goal 2, objective 4 – see UNFF 3; Element 1, goal 3, objective 1 – see UNFF 12; Element 1, goal 4, objective 1 – see UNFF 3; Element 1, goal 4, objective 4 – see UNFF 5, 9, 10; Element 2, goal 1, objective 2 – see UNFF 1; Element 3, goal 1, objective 2 – see UNFF 10; Element 3, goal 4, objective 1 – see UNFF 10.
