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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

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Bonn, 19–30 May 2008

Item 4.16 of the provisional agenda*

REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLES 20 AND 21

Guidance to the financial mechanism: Compilation of the past guidance provided by the Conference of the Parties to the Global Environment Facility

Note by the Executive Secretary

In decision IV/11, paragraph 4, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to advise Parties on matters relating to recommendations for further guidance to the financial mechanism. In response to this request, the Executive Secretary prepared a compilation of previous guidance contained in documents UNEP/CBD/COP/5/13/Add.1, UNEP/CBD/COP/6/INF/3, UNEP/CBD/COP/7/INF/1 and UNEP/CBD/COP/8/INF/1 for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth meetings respectively. Following past practice, the Executive Secretary has once again prepared this compilation of previous guidance in order to facilitate the work of the Conference of the Parties on further guidance to the financial mechanism as well as on the development of a four-year (2010-2014) framework for programme priorities related to utilization of GEF resources for biological diversity, at its ninth meeting.

* UNEP/CBD/COP/9/1.

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**COMPILATION OF THE GUIDANCE PROVIDED TO THE FINANCIAL MECHANISM
BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES**

1.1 *In-situ conservation and protected areas (Agenda items 3.2 and 4.7)*

“The programme priorities are ... [s]trengthening conservation, management and sustainable use of ecosystems and habitats identified by national Governments in accordance with article 7 of the Convention.”¹

“The Conference of the Parties... [R]equests the Global Environment Facility, respecting national targets and priorities, to support the implementation of the programme of work, and in particular to:

(a) In collaboration with other donors, encourage increased support to address the long-term financial sustainability of protected areas, including through different mechanisms and instruments, to help achieve the target of securing, by 2008, sufficient resources to meet the costs to effectively implement and manage national and regional systems of protected areas;

(b) Further develop its portfolio on protected areas towards comprehensive, representative and effectively managed protected area systems addressing system wide needs; and

(c) Support country driven early action by continuing to streamline its procedures and the provision of fast disbursing resources through expedited means.”²

“The Conference of the Parties... [I]nvites the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank, the United Nations Environment Programme and other Implementing Agencies of the Global Environment Facility, along with other relevant organizations, to help facilitate and financially support the protected-area financing roundtables referred to in paragraph 18 (a) of decision VIII/24, on protected areas, in accordance with their mandates.”³

“The Conference of the Parties... [I]nvites the Global Environment Facility:

(a) To support early action activities of the programme of work, taking into account the identified national needs at a scale to sufficiently support developing countries, particularly the least developed and small island developing States, and countries with economies in transition;

(b) To support national and regional systems of protected areas taking into account the targets and timetables in the programme of work;

(c) To maintain the proportion of funding for protected areas in the biodiversity envelop of the business plan of the fourth phase of the Global Environment Facility, taking into account the goals and targets in the programme of work and the niche of the Global Environment Facility in providing system-wide protected-areas support;

(d) To review and revise, as appropriate, its protected areas’ policies in relation to indigenous and local communities; and

1/ Decision I/2, annex I, paragraph 4 (c)

2/ Decision VII/20, paragraph 10

3/ Decision VIII/18, paragraph 28

(e) To support community conserved areas, ensuring the immediate, full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in the development of relevant activities.”^{4/}

“The Conference of the Parties... [I]nvites the Implementing Agencies of the Global Environment Facility to treat requests for access to funding for the projects mentioned in 29 (a) and (b) above in an expeditious manner.”⁵

“The Global Environment Facility as the institutional structure operating the financial mechanism shall provide financial resources ... [f]or country-driven capacity-building activities by developing country Parties, in particular, least developed countries and small island developing States among them, for the implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation.”⁶

“The programme priorities are ... [p]rojects that promote the conservation and/or sustainable use of endemic species.”⁷

1.2 Climate change (Agenda item 4.5)

“The Conference of the Parties... [R]equests the financial mechanism, in accordance with its mandate, and *invites* other sources to provide financial support to developing country Parties, in particular the least developed and small island developing States among them, and countries with economies in transition, where appropriate, for:

(a) Country-driven activities, including pilot projects, aimed at projects related to ecosystem conservation, restoration of degraded lands and marine environments and overall ecosystem integrity that take into account impacts of climate change;

(b) Assistance in capacity-building with the aim of increasing the effectiveness in addressing environmental issues through their commitments under the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, inter alia, by applying the ecosystem approach;

(c) Assistance in developing synergy-oriented programmes to conserve and sustainably manage all ecosystems, such as forests, wetlands and marine environments that also contribute to poverty eradication.”⁸

1.3 Invasive alien species (Agenda item 3.3)

“The Global Environment Facility should... [p]rovide adequate and timely support for country-driven projects at national, regional and subregional levels addressing the issue of alien species in accordance with decision IV/1 C.”⁹

“The Global Environment Facility should provide support... [f]or activities to implement the Global Invasive Species Programme, in accordance with decision V/8.”¹⁰

4/ Decision VIII/18, paragraph 29
 5/ Decision VIII/18, paragraph 30
 6/ Decision VI/17, paragraph 10 (d)
 7/ Decision I/2, annex I, paragraph 4 (l)
 8/ Decision VII/20, paragraph 6
 9/ Decision IV/13, paragraph 1
 10/ Decision V/13, paragraph 2 (m)

“The Global Environment Facility as the institutional structure operating the financial mechanism shall provide financial resources ... [a]s a priority, for projects that assist with the development and implementation, at national and regional levels, of the invasive alien species strategies and action plans called for in paragraph 6 of decision V/8, in particular those strategies and actions related to geographically and evolutionarily isolated ecosystems, paying particular attention to the needs of least developed countries and small island developing States, including needs related to capacity-building.”¹¹

“The Conference of the Parties... [I]nvites the Global Environment Facility, in accordance with its mandate, other funding institutions and development agencies to provide financial support to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States among them, and countries with economies in transition, to assist in the improved prevention, rapid response and management measures to address threats of alien invasive species.”¹²

“The Conference of the Parties... [N]otes the need for the provision of additional funding by the financial mechanism of the Convention to support capacity-building for developing countries, in particular the least developed and small island developing States, and countries with economies in transition, to prevent or minimize the risks of the dispersal and establishment of invasive alien species at the national, subregional, or regional levels.”¹³

1.4 Sustainable use

“The Conference of the Parties... [I]nvites Parties and Governments, in collaboration with the Global Environment Facility and other relevant organizations, including the private sector, to develop and transfer technologies and provide financial support to assist in the implementation of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines at the national level to ensure that the use of biological diversity is sustainable.”¹⁴

1.5 Incentive measures (Agenda item 3.5)

“The programme priorities are ... [i]nnovative measures, including in the field of economic incentives, aiming at conservation of biological diversity and/or sustainable use of its components, including those which assist developing countries to address situations where opportunity costs are incurred by local communities and to identify ways and means by which these can be compensated, in accordance with article 11 of the Convention.”¹⁵

“The Conference of the Parties... [r]econfirms the importance of the Global Environment Facility’s support for incentive measures, guidance for which was contained in annex I to decision I/2, paragraph 4, taking note of decision III/18.”¹⁶

“The Global Environment Facility should... [p]rovide adequate and timely support for the design and approaches relevant to the implementation of incentive measures, including, where necessary, assessment of biological diversity of the relevant ecosystems, capacity-building necessary for the design and

11/ Decision VI/17, paragraph 10 (k)
 12/ Decision VII/20, paragraph 9
 13/ Decision VIII/18, paragraph 27
 14/ Decision VII/20, paragraph 8
 15/ Decision I/2, annex I, paragraph 4 (i)
 16/ Decision III/5, paragraph 3

implementation of incentive measures and the development of appropriate legal and policy frameworks, and projects with components that provide for these incentives, in accordance with decision IV/10.”¹⁷

“The Global Environment Facility should provide support ... [f]or projects that incorporate incentive measures that promote the development and implementation of social, economic and legal incentive measures for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, in accordance with decision V/15.”¹⁸

“The Global Environment Facility as the institutional structure operating the financial mechanism shall provide financial resources ... [F]or projects that assist with the implementation of the programme of work on incentive measures, taking into consideration the specific circumstances of countries, in particular, least developed countries and small island developing States.”¹⁹

1.6 Biosafety

“The Conference of the Parties... [I]nvites the Global Environment Facility to extend support for demonstration projects on implementation of the national biosafety frameworks to other eligible countries.”²⁰

“The Global Environment Facility shall provide financial resources ... [f]or capacity-building in biosafety, including for the implementation by developing countries of the UNEP International Technical Guidelines on Safety in Biotechnology.”²¹

“The Global Environment Facility as the institutional structure operating the financial mechanism shall provide financial resources ... [F]or national capacity-building in biosafety, in particular for enabling effective participation in the Biosafety Clearing-House and in the implementation of the Action Plan for Building Capacities for the Effective Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety proposed by the Intergovernmental Committee on Cartagena Protocol at its second meeting, and for other needs identified in the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Committee at its second meeting for assisting developing countries to prepare for the entry into force of the Protocol.”²²

“The Conference of the Parties... [S]tresses that the provision of financial resources by the Global Environment Facility shall be for country-driven activities and programmes consistent with their national priorities and objectives.”²³

“The Conference of the Parties... [I]nvites developed country Parties, Governments, the Global Environment Facility, other donor agencies and relevant organizations to provide financial support and other assistance to developing country Parties, in particular the least developed and the small island developing States among them, and Parties with economies in transition, including countries amongst these that are centres of origin and centres of genetic diversity, to develop and implement capacity-building activities, including organization of national, regional and inter-regional capacity building workshops and preparatory meetings.”²⁴

17/ Decision IV/13, paragraph 7
 18/ Decision V/13, paragraph 2 (h)
 19/ Decision VI/17, paragraph 10 (j)
 20/ Decision VII/20, paragraph 24
 21/ Decision III/5, paragraph 2 (a)
 22/ Decision VI/17, paragraph 10 (b)
 23/ Decision VII/20, paragraph 22
 24/ Decision VII/20, paragraph 23

“The Conference of the Parties... [U]rges the Global Environment Facility to ensure a rapid implementation of its initial strategy for assisting countries to prepare for the ratification and implementation of the Protocol, and to support capacity-building for the establishment of national components of the Biosafety Clearing-House in a flexible manner, and to provide additional support for the development and/or strengthening of existing national and regional centres for training; regulatory institutions; risk assessment and risk management; infrastructure for the detection, testing, identification and long-term monitoring of living modified organisms; legal advice; decision-making; handling of socio-economic considerations; awareness-raising and technology transfer for biosafety.”²⁵

“The Conference of the Parties... [N]otes that the role of the Global Environment Facility, in accordance with its mandate, in the Action Plan for Building Capacities for the Effective Implementation of the Protocol, adopted by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety at its first meeting, includes:

(a) Providing funding and other assistance to build necessary legislative and administrative frameworks, and for training in risk assessment and risk management;

(b) Deciding on further areas for financial support for capacity-building in accordance with the identified priority needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, responses to the questionnaires, the outcomes of inter-sessional workshops, and its previous pilot project on biosafety;

(c) Implementing the GEF Strategy to Assist Countries to Ratify and Implement the Protocol on Biosafety;

(d) Facilitating the provision of technical support; and

(e) Facilitating the use of existing and developing regional networks.”²⁶

“The Conference of the Parties ... [R]equests the Global Environment Facility to provide an assurance that the introduction of the Resource Allocation Framework will not in any way jeopardize eligible Parties’ access to funding for biosafety-related activities including regional activities where appropriate.”²⁷

“The Conference of the Parties ... [R]equests the Global Environment Facility to base their allocation of resources to support the implementation of the Protocol on country needs and priorities, and as a priority to support the establishment of a base level of capacity in all eligible developing country Parties, in particular the least developed and the small island developing States, and Parties with economies in transition.”²⁸

“The Conference of the Parties ... [U]rges the Global Environment Facility to support in-country, regional and subregional stock-taking studies to enable:

(a) The better planning and customizing of future assistance to the respective needs of eligible countries, given the fact that a “one-size-fits-all” approach to biosafety has been demonstrated to be inappropriate;

25/ Decision VII/20, paragraph 25

26/ Decision VII/20, paragraph 26

27/ Decision VIII/18, paragraph 9

28/ Decision VIII/18, paragraph 10

- (b) The identification of clear and realistic targets;
- (c) The identification and provision of technical and adequately experienced expertise for the implementation of national biosafety frameworks;
- (d) The development of effective coordination which facilitates the support, ownership and involvement of all relevant national ministries and authorities, to ensure synergy and continuity.”²⁹

“The Conference of the Parties ... [R]equests the Global Environment Facility to support:

- (a) The provision of longer-term support for building, consolidating and enhancing sustainable human resource capacity in risk assessment and risk management, and also in developing detection techniques for identifying living modified organisms;
- (b) Awareness-raising, public participation and information sharing, including through the Biosafety Clearing-House;
- (c) Coordination and harmonization of national biosafety frameworks at regional and subregional levels, where appropriate;
- (d) Sustainable national participation in the Biosafety Clearing-House, including capacity-building, to take into account the need for Parties to be able to provide summary information in the common formats for reporting information (particularly keywords for categorizing records) in an official language of the United Nations to enable registration of such information with the Central Portal;
- (e) Transfer and joint development of technology in risk assessment, risk management, monitoring and detection of living modified organisms;
- (f) Development and implementation of national biosafety frameworks;
- (g) Development of technical, financial, and human capacity including postgraduate education, biosafety-related laboratories and relevant equipment;
- (h) Implementation of the revised Action Plan for Building Capacities for the Effective Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;
- (i) Facilitation of the consultative information-gathering process leading to the preparation of national reports under the Protocol for those developing country Parties, in particular the least developed and small island developing States, and Parties with economies in transition, which lack sufficient capacity in this regard.”³⁰

“The Conference of the Parties ... [I]nvites the Global Environment Facility, developed country Parties and Governments, as well as relevant organizations to take into account the revised Action Plan for Building Capacities for the Effective Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and increase their financial and technical support to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for its implementation.”³¹

29/ Decision VIII/18, paragraph 11

30/ Decision VIII/18, paragraph 12

31/ Decision VIII/18, paragraph 13

2. Ecosystem approach (Agenda item 3.6)

“The Global Environment Facility should provide support ... [f]or projects utilizing the ecosystem approach, without prejudice to differing national needs and priorities which may require the application of approaches such as single-species conservation programmes, in accordance with decision V/6.”³²

“The Conference of the Parties... [I]nvites the Global Environment Facility, in accordance with its mandate, and other funding institutions and development agencies to provide financial support for the implementation of the ecosystem approach, in accordance with decision VII/11.”³³

2.1 Forest biodiversity (Agenda item 3.4)

“The Global Environment Facility should... [i]n accordance with decision IV/7 and with Article 7 of the Convention and also within the context of implementing national biological diversity strategies and plans, provide adequate and timely financial support to Parties for projects and capacity-building activities for implementing the programme of work of forest biological diversity at the national, regional and subregional levels and the use of the clearing-house mechanism to include activities that contribute to halting and addressing deforestation, basic assessments and monitoring of forest biological diversity, including taxonomic studies and inventories, focusing on forest species, other important components of forest biological diversity and ecosystems under threat.”³⁴

“The Global Environment Facility should provide support ... [A]s a priority, for projects which: (iii) Assist in the implementation of the programme of work on forest biodiversity at the national, subregional and regional levels, and consider the operational objectives of the aforementioned programme of work as guidance for funding, in accordance with decision V/4.”³⁵

“The Global Environment Facility as the institutional structure operating the financial mechanism shall provide financial resources ... [F]or country-driven projects focusing on the identified national priorities, as well as regional and international actions that assist the implementation of the expanded work programme considering conservation of biological diversity, sustainable use of its components and fair and equitable sharing of the benefits from genetic resources in a balanced way, underscoring the importance of ensuring long-term conservation, sustainable use, and benefit-sharing of native forests.”³⁶

2.2 Biological diversity of inland water ecosystems (Agenda item 4.8)

“The Global Environment Facility should... [w]ithin the context of implementing national biological diversity strategies and action plans, provide adequate and timely support to eligible projects which help Parties to develop and implement national, sectoral and cross-sectoral plans for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity of inland water ecosystems in accordance with decision IV/4.”³⁷

“The Global Environment Facility should provide support. ... [F]or the implementation of capacity-building measures for developing and implementing national and sectoral plans for the conservation and sustainable use of inland water ecosystems, including comprehensive assessments of the biological diversity of inland waters, and capacity-building programmes for monitoring the implementation of the

32/ Decision V/13, paragraph 2 (a)
 33/ Decision VII/20, paragraph 5
 34/ Decision IV/13, paragraph 4
 35/ Decision V/13, paragraph 2 (b) (iii)
 36/ Decision VI/17, paragraph 10 (c)
 37/ Decision IV/13, paragraph 3

programme of work and the trends in inland water biological diversity and for information gathering and dissemination among riparian communities.”³⁸

“The Global Environment Facility as the institutional structure operating the financial mechanism shall provide financial resources ... [F]or projects that assist with the implementation of the programme of work on biological diversity of inland water ecosystems.”³⁹

2.3 Marine and coastal biodiversity (Agenda item 4.9)

“The programme priorities are ... [P]rojects that promote the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity of coastal and marine resources under threat.”⁴⁰

“The Global Environment Facility should provide support ... [F]or capacity-building at the national, subregional and regional level to address the issue of coral bleaching within the context of implementation of the programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity, in accordance with decision V/3.”⁴¹

“The Global Environment Facility as the institutional structure operating the financial mechanism shall provide financial resources ... [F]or country-driven activities aimed at enhancing capabilities to address the impacts of mortality related to coral bleaching and physical degradation and destruction of coral reefs, including developing rapid response capabilities to implement measures to address coral-reef degradation, mortality and subsequent recovery.”⁴²

“The Conference of the Parties... [I]nvites the Global Environment Facility, other funding institutions, and development agencies to provide financial support for the implementation of the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biodiversity.”⁴³

2.4 Island Biological Diversity (Agenda item 4.10)

“The Conference of the Parties ... [R]equests the Global Environment Facility and its Implementing Agencies to recognize the programme of work on island biodiversity and its relevance to developing countries, and in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, and to provide support for its implementation.”⁴⁴

“The Conference of the Parties ... [R]equests the Global Environment Facility to further simplify their procedures so as to take into account the special circumstances of small island developing States in implementing the programme of work on island biodiversity.”⁴⁵

38/ Decision V/13, paragraph 2 (n)
 39/ Decision VI/17, paragraph 10 (i)
 40/ Decision I/2, annex I, paragraph 4 (k)
 41/ Decision V/13, paragraph 2 (d)
 42/ Decision VI/17, paragraph 10 (e)
 43/ Decision VII/20, paragraph 3
 44/ Decision VIII/18, paragraph 14
 45/ Decision VIII/18, paragraph 15

2.5 *Biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands (Agenda item 4.6)*

“The programme priorities are ... [p]rojects which promote the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components in other environmentally vulnerable areas such as arid and semi-arid and mountainous areas.”⁴⁶

“The Global Environment Facility should provide support ... [A]s a priority, for projects which: (ii) Implement the Convention's programme of work on biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands, in accordance with decision V/23, through the development, review and implementation of its operational programmes, in particular, the operational programme on arid and semi-arid ecosystems.”⁴⁷

2.6 *Agricultural biological diversity (Agenda item 3.1)*

“The Global Environment Facility shall provide financial resources... [f]or supporting, as a priority, efforts for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity important to agriculture, in accordance with decision III/11.”⁴⁸

“The Global Environment Facility should provide support ... [A]s a priority, for projects which: (i) Implement the Convention's programme of work on agricultural biodiversity, in accordance with decision V/5, through the timely finalization and implementation of its operational programme on agricultural biodiversity, and through the development and implementation of other relevant operational programmes.”⁴⁹

“The Global Environment Facility should provide support ... [F]or projects which assist with the development and implementation of the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Pollinators in Agriculture, in accordance with decision V/5.”⁵⁰

“The Global Environment Facility as the institutional structure operating the financial mechanism shall provide financial resources ... [F]or projects that assist with the implementation of the Plan of Action for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Pollinators by developing country Parties, in particular, least developed countries and small island developing States.”⁵¹

“The Global Environment Facility as the institutional structure operating the financial mechanism shall provide financial resources ... [T]o build capacity of developing country Parties, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, to participate effectively in the preparatory process for the first Report on the State of World's Animal Genetic Resources.”⁵²

2.7 *Mountain ecosystems*

“The programme priorities are ... [p]rojects which promote the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components in other environmentally vulnerable areas such as arid and semi-arid and mountainous areas.”⁵³

46/ Decision I/2, annex I, paragraph 4 (k)
 47/ Decision V/13, paragraph 2 (b) (ii)
 48/ Decision III/5, paragraph 2 (c)
 49/ Decision V/13, paragraph 2 (b) (i)
 50/ Decision V/13, paragraph 2 (c)
 51/ Decision VI/17, paragraph 10 (g)
 52/ Decision VI/17, paragraph 10 (h)
 53/ Decision I/2, annex I, paragraph 4 (k)

3.1 *Biodiversity planning (Agenda item 3.7)*

“The Conference of the Parties... [I]nvites the Global Environment Facility to provide information on its contribution and experience regarding the implementation of goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan.”⁵⁴

“The programme priorities are ... [c]apacity-building, including human resources development and institutional development and/or strengthening, to facilitate the preparation and/or implementation of national strategies, plans for priority programmes and activities for conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components.”⁵⁵

“The programme priorities are ... [p]rojects and programmes that have national priority status and that fulfil the obligations of the Convention.”⁵⁶

“The Conference of the Parties... [r]equests the interim institutional structure operating the financial mechanism to facilitate urgent implementation of Article 6 of the Convention by availing to developing country Parties financial resources for projects in a flexible and expeditious manner.”⁵⁷

“The Conference of the Parties... [R]equests the interim institutional structure to implement the relevant provisions of the following decisions: II/7 on consideration of Articles 6 and 8 of the Convention ...”⁵⁸

“The Global Environment Facility as the institutional structure operating the financial mechanism shall provide financial resources ... [a]s a priority, for the elaboration, development, and revision as necessary, of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and for activities which assist their implementation consistent with guidance to the Global Environment Facility from the Conference of the Parties.”⁵⁹

“The programme priorities are ... [D]evelopment of integrated national strategies, plans or programmes for the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components in accordance with article 6 of the Convention.”⁶⁰

“The Conference of the Parties... [I]nvites the Global Environment Facility and bilateral and multilateral funding organizations to provide funding for the review and update of national biodiversity strategies and action plans.”⁶¹

“The Conference of the Parties... [I]nvites the Global Environment Facility, in accordance with its mandate, to provide adequate and timely support to developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States among them, and Parties with economies in transition, as appropriate for the implementation of activities to achieve and monitor progress towards the goals and targets identified in the framework for evaluation of progress towards implementation of the Strategic Plan of the Convention, in accordance with decision VII/30.”⁶²

54/ Decision VIII/18, paragraph 18

55/ Decision I/2, annex I, paragraph 4 (e)

56/ Decision I/2, annex I, paragraph 4 (a)

57/ Decision II/6, paragraph 5

58/ Decision II/6, paragraph 11

59/ Decision VI/17, paragraph 10 (a)

60/ Decision I/2, annex I, paragraph 4 (b)

61/ Decision VIII/18, paragraph 19

62/ Decision VII/20, paragraph 11

“The Conference of the Parties... [U]rges Parties, Governments, international financial institutions, donors, and relevant intergovernmental organizations, as a contribution towards the Millennium Development Goals, to implement development activities in ways that are consistent with, and do not compromise, the achievement of the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the 2010 target, including by improving environmental policies in relevant development agencies and sectors such as through integrating concerns relating to biodiversity and the Millennium Development Goals more directly into environmental impact assessments, strategic environmental assessments and other such tools, including at the national level through the national strategies for sustainable development and the poverty reduction strategies and programmes, and *invites* the Global Environment Facility to support capacity-building activities in developing countries for this purpose.”⁶³

3.2 *Identification and monitoring (Agenda item 4.4)*

“The programme priorities are ... [I]dentification and monitoring of wild and domesticated biodiversity components, in particular those under threat, and implementation of measures for their conservation and sustainable use.”⁶⁴

“The Global Environment Facility shall provide financial resources... [f]or capacity-building, including taxonomy, to enable developing countries to develop and carry out an initial assessment for designing, implementing and monitoring programmes in accordance with Article 7, taking into account the special need of small island States (Note: The Conference of the Parties endorsed recommendation II/2 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, concerning capacity-building for taxonomy).”⁶⁵

“The Global Environment Facility should provide support ... [t]o strengthen capabilities to develop monitoring programmes and suitable indicators for biological diversity, in accordance with decision V/7.”⁶⁶

“The Conference of the Parties... [R]ecognizes that the development and use of indicators, particularly in the development phase, requires a financial and technical commitment from Parties, and therefore *requests* the financial mechanism and encourages bilateral and multilateral funding agencies to assist developing countries, in particular the least developed and small island developing States among them, and countries with economies in transition through the provision of financial assistance and training, as required and as appropriate, to develop and implement effective biodiversity indicators.”⁶⁷

3.2 *Millennium Ecosystem Assessment*

“The Conference of the Parties ... [I]nvites the Global Environment Facility, in coordination with the Executive Secretary, to identify gaps and needs in relation to existing financial resources, until 2010, to meet the unprecedented additional efforts needed to significantly reduce the rate of biodiversity loss and maintain the provision of ecosystem goods and services.”⁶⁸

“The Conference of the Parties ... [E]ncourages Parties and other Governments to conduct national and other sub-global assessments making use of the conceptual framework and methodologies of the

63/ Decision VII/20, paragraph 13
 64/ Decision I/2, annex I, paragraph 4 (d)
 65/ Decision III/5, paragraph 2 (b)
 66/ Decision V/13, paragraph 2 (j)
 67/ Decision VII/20, paragraph 4
 68/ Decision VIII/18, paragraph 16

Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, as appropriate, and invites the Global Environment Facility and bilateral and multilateral funding organizations, as appropriate, to provide funding for these assessments.”⁶⁹

3.2 *Global Taxonomy Initiative (Agenda item 4.11)*

“The Global Environment Facility should... [p]rovide financial resources for country-driven activities within the context of its operation programmes to participate in the Global Taxonomy Initiative which take into account as appropriate, elements of the Suggestions for Action contained in the annex to decision IV/1 D.”⁷⁰

“The Global Environment Facility should provide support ... [t]o continue promoting awareness of the Global Taxonomy Initiative in the relevant activities of the Global Environment Facility, such as the Country Dialogue Workshops, and to facilitate capacity-building in taxonomy, including in its Capacity Development Initiative.”⁷¹

“The Global Environment Facility as the institutional structure operating the financial mechanism shall provide financial resources ... [f]or national and regional taxonomic capacity-building, as a basis for implementing the programme of work for the Global Taxonomy Initiative, with particular attention to funding country-driven pilot projects identified under the Global Taxonomy Initiative, taking into consideration the special needs of least developed countries and small island developing States.”⁷²

“The Conference of the Parties... [I]nvites Parties, other Governments, regional and international organizations to take full account of the importance of taxonomic capacities in achieving the goals of the Convention, to support taxonomic activities to attain the 2010 target, and to provide all necessary support to national, and where appropriate regional , taxonomic centres of research and expertise; and *urges* the Parties, other Governments and the Global Environment Facility, in accordance with its mandate, and other relevant funding organizations to provide adequate and timely support to developing countries to assist in the implementation of the Global Taxonomy Initiative, and for integrating taxonomic capacity-building activities into thematic and cross-cutting programmes, including supporting activities and projects, such as, where appropriate, stand-alone capacity-building projects.”⁷³

“The Conference of the Parties... [R]equests the Global Environment Facility to continue to support the implementation of the planned activities contained in the programme of work on the Global Taxonomy Initiative, including taxonomic needs assessments, projects with a taxonomic focus or clearly identified taxonomic components, and regional activities on taxonomic capacity development and access to technology.”⁷⁴

“The Conference of the Parties... [F]urther requests the Global Environment Facility to provide financial resources to developing countries, in particular the small island developing States, and countries with economies in transition, for projects which help to establish and operationalize their national focal points for the Global Taxonomy Initiative, as well as financial resources to support capacity-building activities such as, inter alia, taxonomic training related to specific taxa and information technologies.”⁷⁵

69/ Decision VIII/18, paragraph 17

70/ Decision IV/13, paragraph 2

71/ Decision V/13, paragraph 2 (k)

72/ Decision VI/17, paragraph 10 (f)

73/ Decision VII/20, paragraph 7

74/ Decision VIII/18, paragraph 24

75/ Decision VIII/18, paragraph 25

“The Conference of the Parties... [R]equests the secretariats of the Convention and the Global Environment Facility to conduct a joint analysis of funded projects related to the Global Taxonomy Initiative and relevant project information contained in national reports, including analysis of the resources directed specifically to capacity-building, with a view to extracting best practices and sharing information and experience in promoting financial support for the Initiative.”⁷⁶

3.3 *Technology cooperation and transfer (Agenda item 4.3)*

“The programme priorities are ... [i]n accordance with Article 16 of the Convention, and to meet the objectives of conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components, projects which promote access to, transfer of and cooperation for joint development of technology.”⁷⁷

“The Conference of the Parties... [D]ecides that based on needs and priorities identified by developing country Parties and countries with economies in transition, the Global Environment Facility, in accordance with its mandate and in collaboration with other interested funding agencies, shall, as appropriate, provide adequate and timely financial support for the implementation of the programme of work on technology transfer and technological and scientific cooperation, consistent with Articles 16 to 20 of the Convention, and in particular for:

- (a) Building policy, legal, judicial and administrative capacity;
- (b) Facilitating access to relevant proprietary technologies;
- (c) Providing other financial and non-financial incentives for the diffusion of relevant technologies;
- (d) Building capacities of, and empowering, indigenous and local communities and all relevant stakeholders with respect to access to and use of relevant technologies;
- (e) Improving the capacity of national research institutions in developing countries and countries with economies in transition for the development of technologies, as well as for adaptation, diffusion and the further development of imported technologies consistent with their transfer agreement and international law including through fellowships and international exchange programmes;
- (f) Supporting the development and operation of regional or international initiatives to assist technology transfer and cooperation as well as scientific and technical cooperation, including those initiatives designed to facilitate South-South cooperation and South-South joint development of new technologies and also such cooperation among countries with economies in transition.”^{78/}

“The Conference of the Parties ... [I]nvites the Global Environmental Facility to provide financial support to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for the implementation of the programme of work.”⁷⁹

76/ Decision VIII/18, paragraph 26

77/ Decision I/2, annex I, paragraph 4 (f)

78/ Decision VII/20, paragraph 12

79/ Decision VIII/18, paragraph 20

3.4 *Technical and scientific cooperation (Agenda item 4.15)*

“The programme priorities are ... [a]ctivities that provide access to other international, national and/or private sector funds and scientific and technical cooperation.”⁸⁰

“The Conference of the Parties [r]equests the Global Environment Facility to explore the modalities of providing support through the financial mechanism to developing country Parties for capacity-building in relation to the operation of the clearing-house mechanism.”⁸¹

“The Global Environment Facility shall provide financial resources ... [f]or supporting the following activities as critical components in the implementation of the clearing-house mechanism at the national, subregional and regional levels, including in the pilot phase, to which critical components the Global Environment Facility shall give effect by implementing its revised operational criteria for enabling activities in relation to the clearing-house mechanism as quickly as possible:

(i) Capacity-building for the purpose of the clearing-house mechanism, including training in information systems technologies that will allow developing countries to take advantage of the recent developments in electronic communication, including the Internet;

(ii) Country-driven pilot projects, focused on priority areas identified by the Conference of the Parties which would enable developing countries to begin to implement the main features of the pilot-phase of the clearing-house mechanism.”⁸²

“The Global Environment Facility should... [i]n accordance with decision IV/2:

(a) Support capacity-building activities and country-driven pilot projects focused on priority areas, as critical components in the implementation of the clearing-house mechanism at the national, subregional, biogeographic, and regional levels, both during and after the pilot phase;

(b) Provide, as appropriate, increased support, in the framework of country-driven projects to promote the objectives of the Convention, to establish and strengthen biodiversity information systems such as, inter alia, training, technology and processes related to the collection, organization, maintenance and updating of data and information and its communication to users through the clearing-house mechanism;

(c) Evaluate at the end of the clearing-house mechanism pilot phase the experience of the Global Environment Facility’s support for developing countries’ activities, to consider additional efforts to meet the increasing interest in taking part in and having access to the clearing-house mechanism, including in regional networking, and to report to the Conference of the Parties prior to the next meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.”⁸³

“The Global Environment Facility should provide support ... [f]or participation in the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention, in accordance with decision V/14.”⁸⁴

80/ Decision I/2, annex I, paragraph 4 (h)

81/ Decision II/6, paragraph 11

82/ Decision III/5, paragraph 2 (d)

83/ Decision IV/13, paragraph 5

84/ Decision V/13, paragraph 2 (f)

3.5 *Communication, education and public awareness (Agenda item 4.17)*

“The Conference of the Parties... [r]equests the Global Environment Facility, in preparing projects..., to include in such projects... project components addressing ... [p]romotion of the understanding of the importance of, and measures required for, the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.”⁸⁵

“The Global Environment Facility should provide support ... [f]or capacity development for education, public awareness and communication in biological diversity at the national and regional levels, in accordance with decision V/17.”⁸⁶

“The Global Environment Facility as the institutional structure operating the financial mechanism shall provide financial resources ... [F]or capacity development and country-driven projects prioritized in the Global Initiative on Communication, Education and Public Awareness.”⁸⁷

“The Conference of the Parties... [I]nvites the Global Environment Facility, in accordance with its mandate, and other donor organizations to provide funding to developing countries, particularly the least developed and small island developing States among them, and countries with economies in transition for the implementation of their national communication, education and public-awareness programmes and activities.”⁸⁸

“The Conference of the Parties ... [U]rges the Global Environment Facility and other bilateral and multilateral institutions to make available the necessary financial resources especially for developing countries, particularly the least developed and small island developing States, and countries with economies in transition, to implement the identified Communication, Education and Public Awareness priority activities at national and regional levels in support of biodiversity strategies and action plans and any other information, education, and communication awareness strategies.”⁸⁹

3.5 *Research and training (Article 12)*

“The programme priorities are ... [p]rojects that promote the sustainability of project benefits; that offer a potential contribution to experience in the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components which may have application elsewhere; and that encourage scientific excellence.”⁹⁰

“The Conference of the Parties... [r]equests the Global Environment Facility, in preparing projects..., to include in such projects... project components addressing: [t]argeted research which contributes to conservation of biological diversity and the sustainable use of its components including research for reversing current trends of biodiversity loss and species extinction.”⁹¹

3.6 *National reporting (Article 26)*

“The Conference of the Parties... [u]rges the financial mechanism to make available financial resources to developing country Parties to assist in the preparation of their national reports.”⁹²

85/ Decision III/5, paragraph 6 (b)
 86/ Decision V/13, paragraph 2 (l)
 87/ Decision VI/17, paragraph 10 (o)
 88/ Decision VII/20, paragraph 18
 89/ Decision VIII/18, paragraph 21
 90/ Decision I/2, annex I, paragraph 4 (g)
 91/ Decision III/5, paragraph 6 (a)
 92/ Decision II/6, paragraph 11

“The Global Environment Facility should... [c]ontinue to provide financial assistance for the preparation of national reports, having regard to the constraints and needs identified by Parties in their first national reports, in accordance with decision IV/14.”⁹³

“The Global Environment Facility should provide support ... [f]or the consultative processes referred to in paragraph 6 of decision V/19, which are aimed at assisting with the preparation of second national reports, taking into account the fact that the Conference of the Parties may develop guidelines for subsequent national reports.”⁹⁴

“The Global Environment Facility as the institutional structure operating the financial mechanism shall provide financial resources ... [i]n a timely manner, to eligible Parties for the preparation of national reports.”⁹⁵

“The Conference of the Parties... [E]ncourages Parties, Governments, relevant bilateral, regional and multilateral organizations, and the Global Environment Facility to collaborate to strengthen the various capacities of Parties, particularly developing country Parties and countries with economies in transition, to prepare their future national and thematic reports.”⁹⁶

“The Conference of the Parties... [F]urther encourages Parties, Governments, relevant bilateral, regional and multilateral organizations, and the Global Environment Facility, to analyse the progress of Parties, particularly developing country Parties and countries with economies in transition, in implementing the Convention, in relation to those areas identified as a priority by those countries, in order to *inter alia* assist them in the preparation of their future national reports.”⁹⁷

“The Conference of the Parties... [R]equests the Global Environment Facility to explore ways to expedite and simplify its procedures for allocating funds to the eligible countries to prepare their national reports to fulfil their reporting obligations under the Convention.”⁹⁸

“The Conference of the Parties... [I]nvites the Global Environment Facility to provide the necessary financial support to facilitate the preparation of the third national reports by the Parties.”⁹⁹

“The Conference of the Parties... [I]nvites the Global Environment Facility and other bilateral and multilateral financial instruments as appropriate, to provide financial support to eligible Parties for the preparation of their fourth national reports, in a timely fashion and preferably no later than 1 January 2007.”¹⁰⁰

“The Conference of the Parties... [F]urther invites the Global Environment Facility to explore and establish easier and expeditious mechanisms for the provision of funds to eligible countries for preparing their future national reports.”¹⁰¹

93/ Decision IV/13, paragraph 6
 94/ Decision V/13, paragraph 2 (e)
 95/ Decision VI/17, paragraph 10 (l)
 96/ Decision VII/20, paragraph 14
 97/ Decision VII/20, paragraph 15
 98/ Decision VII/20, paragraph 16
 99/ Decision VII/20, paragraph 17
 100/ Decision VIII/18, paragraph 22
 101/ Decision VIII/18, paragraph 23

4.1 Access and benefit sharing (Agenda item 4.1)

“The Conference of the Parties... [u]rges the Global Environment Facility, along with Governments, regional economic integration organizations, and competent international, regional and national organizations, to support human and institutional capacity-building programmes for Governments, non-governmental organizations and local and indigenous communities, as appropriate, to promote the successful development and implementation of legislative, administrative and policy measures and guidances on access to genetic resources, including scientific, technical, business, legal and management skills and capacities.”¹⁰²

“The Conference of the Parties... [r]equests the Global Environment Facility to examine the support of capacity-building projects for indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles related to the preservation and maintenance of their knowledge, innovations and practices relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity with their prior informed consent and their participation.”¹⁰³

“The Global Environment Facility should provide support ... [f]or the implementation of the priority activities identified in the programme of work on Article 8(j) and related provisions, in accordance with decision V/16.”¹⁰⁴

“The Global Environment Facility should... [p]rovide support for:

(a) Stock-taking activities, such as, for example, assessments of current legislative, administrative and policy measures on access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing, evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of a country's institutional and human capacity, and promotion of consensus-building among its different stakeholders;

(b) Formulation of access and benefit-sharing mechanisms at the national, subregional and regional levels, including monitoring, assessment, and incentive measures;

(c) Capacity-building on measures on access to genetic resources and sharing of benefits, including capacity-building on economic valuation of genetic resources;

(d) Within biodiversity projects, other specific benefit-sharing initiatives such as support for entrepreneurial developments by local and indigenous communities, facilitation of financial sustainability of projects promoting the sustainable use of genetic resources, and appropriate targeted research components.”¹⁰⁵

102/ Decision III/5, paragraph 4

103/ Decision III/5, paragraph 5

104/ Decision V/13, paragraph 2 (i)

105/ Decision IV/13, paragraph 8

“The Global Environment Facility should provide support ... [f]or projects that will address the issue of access and benefit-sharing, in accordance with decision V/26.”¹⁰⁶

“The Global Environment Facility as the institutional structure operating the financial mechanism shall provide financial resources ... [F]or projects that assist with the implementation of the Action Plan on Capacity-building for Access and Benefit-sharing in support of the implementation of the Bonn Guidelines on Access to Genetic Resources and Fair and Equitable Sharing of the Benefit Arising out of their Utilization.”¹⁰⁷

“The Conference of the Parties... [R]eiterates its guidance to the Global Environment Facility, as the institutional structure operating the financial mechanism of the Convention, to provide financial resources for country-driven projects based on national priorities that assist with the implementation of the Action Plan in support of the implementation of the Bonn Guidelines on Access to Genetic Resources and Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising out of their Utilization, and further requests the Global Environment Facility, in accordance with its mandate, to support capacity-building regarding the transfer of technologies which enables providers to fully appreciate and actively participate in benefit-sharing arrangements at the stage of granting access permits.”¹⁰⁸

4.2 *Indigenous and local communities (Agenda item 4.2)*

“The programme priorities are ... [p]rojects aimed at the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components which integrate social dimensions including those related to poverty.”¹⁰⁹

“The programme priorities are ... [p]rojects that strengthen the involvement of local and indigenous people in the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components.”¹¹⁰

“The Global Environment Facility as the institutional structure operating the financial mechanism shall provide financial resources ... [f]or the enhancement of national capacities for the establishment and maintenance of mechanisms to protect traditional knowledge at national and subnational levels, and for building the capacity of indigenous and local communities to develop strategies and systems for the protection of traditional knowledge.”¹¹¹

106/ Decision V/13, paragraph 2 (g)
 107/ Decision VI/17, paragraph 10 (m)
 108/ Decision VII/20, paragraph 19
 109/ Decision I/2, annex I, paragraph 4 (m)
 110/ Decision I/2, annex I, paragraph 4 (j)
 111/ Decision VI/17, paragraph 10 (n)