



## Convention on Biological Diversity

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### CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Ninth meeting

Bonn, 19–30 May 2008

Item 3.8 of the provisional agenda\*

#### REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLES 20 AND 21

#### *Draft message on biological diversity and finance to the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus*

#### *Report of the Executive Secretary*

1. In its recommendation 2/2, paragraph 3, the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention recommended that, at its ninth meeting, the Conference of the Parties should mandate its President to transmit a message on biodiversity and financing for development to the International Conference on Financing for Development, and requested the Executive Secretary to undertake informal consultations with Parties to prepare a draft of the message for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties. After the informal consultation with the Parties and relevant organizations in Geneva on 20 January 2008 and in Rome on 16 February 2008, the Executive Secretary has prepared the draft of the message to the Doha International Conference, which is annexed to the present note.

2. The International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, adopted the Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development. In decision VI/16, the Conference of the Parties welcomed the positive outcome of the United Nations International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, in March 2002 as reflected in the Monterrey Consensus, which represents a crucial step towards achieving the goals of poverty eradication, sustained economic growth and promotion of sustainable development. In decision VII/21, paragraph 3, the Conference of the Parties urged Parties to fully implement the Monterrey Consensus on financing for development and conclude successfully the Doha Development Negotiation Round process.

3. In its resolution 62/187, on the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, the General Assembly of the United Nations decided that the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus:

- (a) Will be held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008;

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\* UNEP/CBD/COP/9/1.

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(b) Will be held at the highest possible political level, including with the participation of Heads of State or Government, ministers, special representatives and other representatives, as appropriate;

(c) Will include plenary meetings and six interactive multi-stakeholder round tables on the themes based on the six major thematic areas of the Monterrey Consensus; <sup>1/</sup>

(d) Will result in an intergovernmentally agreed outcome;

(e) Will also result in summaries of the plenary meetings and of the roundtable discussions, to be included in the report of the conference.

4. The six major thematic areas of the Monterrey Consensus include:

(a) Mobilizing domestic financial resources for development;

(b) Mobilizing international resources for development – foreign direct investment and other private flows;

(c) International trade as an engine for development;

(d) Increasing international financial and technical cooperation for development;

(e) External debt;

(f) Addressing systemic issues – enhancing the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems in support of development.

5. In paragraph 2 of the resolution, the General Assembly reiterated that the Review Conference should assess progress made, reaffirm goals and commitments, share best practices and lessons learned and identify obstacles and constraints encountered, actions and initiatives to overcome them and important measures for further implementation, as well as new challenges and emerging issues.

6. In paragraph 4 of the resolution, the Assembly stressed the importance of the full involvement of all relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus at all levels and their full participation in the follow-up process. In paragraph 9, it invited Governments and all relevant stakeholders, including the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the World Trade Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, regional development banks and all other relevant regional bodies, to provide substantive inputs to the preparatory process of the Review Conference.

7. In its paragraph 6, the resolution reaffirms the special role that the international financial and trade institutions, in particular the major institutional stakeholders involved in the financing for development process, are invited to play in all aspects of the Review Conference, including their active involvement in its preparatory work, following the experience of the Monterrey Conference, and called upon the regional commissions, with the support of regional development banks and other relevant entities, to hold regional consultations, as appropriate, during the first half of 2008, which would serve to provide inputs to the preparations for the Review Conference.

8. Accordingly, the following draft decision is proposed for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting:

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<sup>1/</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

“The Conference of the Parties,

“*Noting* resolution 62/187 on Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations (A/RES/62/187, 18 January 2008),

“*Highlighting* the need for a full integration of biodiversity financing at the International Conference on Financing for Development mentioned above,

“*Having considered* recommendation II/2, paragraph 3, of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention that, at its ninth meeting, the Conference of the Parties mandate its President to transmit a message on biodiversity and financing for development to the International Conference on Financing for Development,

“*Taking note* of the draft of the message prepared by the Executive Secretary after informal consultations with Parties and relevant organizations,

“1. *Adopts* the message on finance and biological diversity annexed to the present decision, as an input of the Convention on Biological Diversity to the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus to be held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008;

“2. *Requests* the President of the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to transmit the message on finance and biological diversity to the President of the United Nations General Assembly for consideration by the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development;

“3. *Instructs* the Executive Secretary to promote awareness of the message on finance and biological diversity and participate actively in the process of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development, and report thereon to the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting.”

*Annex*

**BONN MESSAGE ON FINANCE AND BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

*We, the participants in the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,*

*Recalling* that the Convention on Biological Diversity is the foremost international legal instrument for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity as well as for the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources,

*Deeply concerned* by the unprecedented rate of loss of biodiversity of our planet and its far-reaching environmental, social, economic and cultural impacts, exacerbated by the negative impacts of climate change,

*Deeply concerned also* that the consequences of biodiversity loss and ecosystem disruption are harshest for the poor and that biodiversity loss poses a significant barrier to achieving sustainable development and the Millennium Development Goals,

*Recalling* the urgent need to redouble efforts to meet the 2010 biodiversity target of achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss of biodiversity;

*Emphasizing* that the enhanced phase of implementation of the three objectives of the Convention requires that biodiversity considerations be mainstreamed into national development and poverty reduction plans, policies and strategies, as well as into development cooperation planning,

*Highlighting* the need to integrate financing for biodiversity into the decisions of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus to be held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008,

*Hereby declare* that its elements should include the following:

1. Governments and relevant organizations should substantially increase financial resources for the implementation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans, in particular to achieve the 2010 biodiversity target as part of Goal 7, on environmental sustainability, of the Millennium Development Goals, taking into account the strategy on resource mobilization in support of the Convention's three objectives, as adopted by the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, in Bonn, Germany.

2. The international development and financial cooperation system, including the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, regional development banks and bilateral development agencies, as well as the United Nations funds, programmes and agencies, are invited to increase direct investment and technical assistance in biodiversity projects and strive to mainstream biodiversity considerations into their overall programme of work to maximize potential for synergy.

3. Governments and relevant organizations should integrate into their strategies for poverty reduction and development the contribution of biodiversity, including, as appropriate, ecosystem services, to poverty eradication, national development and human well-being, as well as the economic, social, cultural, and other values of biodiversity as emphasized in the Convention on Biological Diversity.

4. Governments and relevant organizations should develop and implement effective and innovative mechanisms to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources, and support the development and adoption of an international regime on access and benefit sharing, by 2010, in the framework of the convention on Biological Diversity.

5. Governments and relevant organizations should develop and implement effective and innovative mechanisms, at national and international levels to promote the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, taking into account the value of biodiversity and the ecosystem system services it generates, and the contribution of indigenous and local communities in maintaining it.

6. The business community, including the financial services sector, should be invited to fully engage in the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention;

7. South-South Cooperation should be actively encouraged as an effective complementary tool to promote new flows of technical and financial resources to implement the three objectives of the Convention.

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