

**Convention on
Biological Diversity**

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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Eleventh meeting

Hyderabad, India, 8-19 October 2012

Item 5.2 of the provisional agenda*

**RECENT COOPERATION AGREEMENTS IN SUPPORT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020**

Note by the Executive Secretary

The Executive Secretary is circulating herewith, for the information of participants in the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the text of bilateral agreements reached with FAO, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, the United Nations Environment Programme and the UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Center in support of the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

* UNEP/CBD/COP/11/1.

Biodiversity for Food Security and Sustainable Production: Potential for further enhanced cooperation between FAO and CBD

FAO and CBD have established a close and productive working relationship. FAO is the Convention's lead partner for the implementation of the Programme of Work on Agricultural Biodiversity, established in 1996, especially in the field of the conservation and sustainable use of genetic resources and species that maintain ecosystem services such as pollination, soil fertility and pest control, and also supports activities in forests, fisheries, bioenergy, nutrition, biosecurity (in relations to invasive alien species and GMOs) among others. This is reflected in a Memorandum of Cooperation with FAO, a joint workplan between the secretariat of the CBD, FAO and its Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, as well as MOCs with the secretariats of the International Treaty on PGRFA and the IPPC.

With the adoption at COP-10, in Nagoya in October of 2010, of The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets as well as the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization, the CBD has entered in a phase of implementation. There is both a potential and a need for further enhanced collaboration.

Achievement of the Aichi targets will require biodiversity to be mainstreamed into all relevant sectors. The agriculture, fisheries, forestry and rural development sectors are key in this regard. FAO as the UN's primary agency for these matters provides both the technical expertise and the normative frameworks for these sectors.

At the same time, greater consideration of biodiversity and ecosystem services can help to address the two major failings of the contemporary food system – persistent hunger and the unsustainability of many production systems impacting on livelihoods and well being of indigenous and local communities.

The further mainstreaming of biodiversity into the food and agriculture sectors benefits biodiversity, food security and livelihoods: by addressing some of the key drivers of biodiversity loss and by seizing opportunities for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity to contribute to the long-term sustainable intensification and increase of food production in a period of changing climate including building a more sustainable consumption patterns through *inter alia* government procurement. These can be promoted building on the "Save and Grow" approach.

The CBD would therefore like to explore an enhanced partnership with FAO along the following objectives:

1. Further integrate biodiversity concerns into the food and agriculture work at country, sub-regional and regional levels. FAO has offices in most developing countries, as well as sub-regional and regional offices. These relate directly with ministries of agriculture, forests, fisheries and rural development and are a potential channel for integrating biodiversity concerns into these sectors. A message from the DG to his representatives at these levels could draw attention to the possible contribution of the food and agriculture sectors to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets through national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and also highlight the contribution of biodiversity (particularly at ecosystem and genetic levels) to FAO's food and nutrition security as well as sustainability goals. FAO and the CBD could work together to develop a guidance note that could be made available by Director-General to country, sub-regional and regional offices. CBD would encourage its national focal points to liaise with their counterparts that relate to FAO.

2. Explore the role of COFI, COFO, COAG and CFS to encourage uptake of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (and Aichi Biodiversity Targets) in the sectors represented in these bodies. For example, conservation and

sustainable use of biodiversity can contribute to food security and to enhanced sustainability in terrestrial and marine environments. Some examples of the potential areas for cooperation in this regard are:

- formalization of technical guidance on reducing risk from potentially invasive fish species (COFI);
- incorporation of biodiversity-related matters into consideration of food security (CFS); incorporation of biodiversity-related matters into discussions and guidance for sustainable production systems (COAG, COFI and COFO).

3. Further integrate biodiversity concerns into FAO's assessment, perspectives and monitoring. FAO's economic division carries out regular projections, using economic models. There is a potential to strengthen in these assessments the role of biodiversity and ecosystem services as both additional opportunities and additional constraints on production increases. FAO's Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture is engaging in a first report of the State of the World's on Biodiversity for food and agriculture that is also a contribution to the Strategic Plan and the UN Decade on Biodiversity. FAO hosts important data basis that can assist in the monitoring of the implementation of the Aichi Targets related to the food and agriculture sectors.

4. Working towards **joint work on biodiversity for food and nutrition security**, building on many existing initiatives in both FAO (Sustainable intensification; State of the world's biodiversity for food and agriculture; fisheries; forestry; nutrition) and CBD (POW on agricultural biodiversity, including cross-cutting initiatives of soil biodiversity, pollinators, nutrition; POW on Protected Areas, Global Biodiversity Outlook Reports; work on Aichi targets), this could examine and promote, *inter alia*:

- The contribution of genetic resources to food security (quantity, quality, availability, including sustainability), with enhanced attention to *in situ* conservation (on farm and in protected areas);
- The contribution of other aspects of biodiversity to food and nutrition security (e.g.: through pollinators, soil biota, other species that underpin ecosystem services);
- Opportunities for biodiversity to contribute to enhanced nutrition (dietary diversity), and to livelihoods and income generation.

Such actions could help address the various dimensions of food security – productivity and stability of supply, access to food, and nutritional quality.

4. Cooperating on **the development, implementation and dissemination of legal, policy and administrative frameworks for access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization**, in line with the Nagoya Protocol and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture as well as the ongoing work of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

The Director-General

DG/12/4081

Rome, 24.IX.2012

Dear Mr Ferreira de Souza Dias,

It was indeed a pleasure to host you in Rome during your visit in May. I also very much appreciated your prompt follow up to our discussions, and your discussions with various units and staff of the Organization, to enhance cooperative activities between our two institutions. Since FAO is strongly committed to forging closer cooperation with the SCBD through a series of joint activities and initiatives, your proposals in this regard are most welcome.

As agreed during our discussions, I am committed to supporting the implementation of the Strategic Plan at international, regional, national and local levels and FAO is well positioned to further assist the SCBD and the countries, in particular, in the areas of its mandate.

Based on your initial proposal, please find attached a number of areas in which I believe concrete activities can already be undertaken in the short and medium terms, while strengthening the foundations for our longer term cooperation.

Furthermore, since a number of these activities fall within ongoing joint or collaborative work between our two institutions, our respective relevant officers and units would be able to commence implementing without much difficulty or delay. Hopefully, the decisions of the Eleventh Meeting will provide us with a further basis to expand and deepen our cooperation.

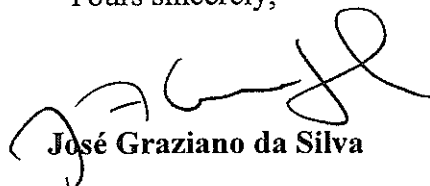
I would like to assure you of FAO's commitment to support the work of the CBD for the mutual benefit of our respective institutions, and wish you much success as you settle in to undertake your new assignments at the Secretariat.

../..

Mr Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias
Executive Secretary
Convention on Biological Diversity
Montreal

Finally, I wish you very fruitful deliberations during the Eleventh Conference of the Parties to the Convention, to be held in India in the next few weeks, and look forward to receiving more information on the outcomes at the end of the meeting.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'José Graziano da Silva', with a stylized, flowing script.

José Graziano da Silva

Biodiversity for Food Security and Sustainable Production

Potential for further enhanced cooperation between FAO and CBD

Consolidated comments from FAO's Interdepartmental Working Group on Biodiversity

FAO welcomes and appreciates the Convention on Biological Diversity's (ES-CBD) proposal for closer collaboration. The proposal has been internally circulated and commented by the Interdepartmental Working Group (IDWG) on Biodiversity. The proposal builds upon already excellent existing agreements between the two organizations, including initiatives such as "Save and Grow", and the Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS).

We would like to highlight additional areas of collaboration that were not explicitly mentioned in the framework, but were implicit in the introduction of the document, such as FAO's active contribution to the Programmes of Work on Forest Biodiversity, Mountain Biodiversity, Arid and Sub-Humid Lands, Marine and Coastal Biodiversity, Inland Waters, as well as our collaboration on specific initiatives such as the development of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, for which FAO is a key provider of information and data.

In addition, we wish to highlight ongoing work between the CBD and FAO on forest issues (all of which contribute to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity), which includes the assessment and monitoring of forest biodiversity (through FRA and the State of the World's Forest Genetic Resources), mainstreaming biodiversity in sustainable forest management, sustainable use and management of wildlife (including bushmeat) for improved livelihood, and food security of rural communities.

FAO could also be considered a key partner in the implementation of sustainable use components of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, also in view of its role as a development agency working in most countries of the world, and its ability to address cross-sectoral aspects, which are key in the sustainable use of natural resources.

FAO would be ready to be closely involved in activities that contribute to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, also at the national level. In line with this, you may wish to note that in September 2011, the FAO CBD Focal Point (Mr Müller) sent a letter to all CBD National Focal Points inviting them to liaise with the several sectoral focal points established by FAO in the Countries.

FAO developed instruments and initiatives that contribute to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, such as work on the IPPC, ITPGRFA, Global Plans for Action on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, sustainable use of land, soil, water and biological resources and integrated ecosystem management, and raising awareness of the contribution of diverse farming systems to biodiversity management and food and livelihood security, especially through the GIAHS initiative and programme.

In the context of their Memorandum of Cooperation, the CBD and ITPGRFA Secretariats launched the CBD-ITPGRFA Joint Initiative for the harmonious implementation and mutual supportiveness of the two agreements at the Rio+20 Summit, through a series of practical

joint activities. Based on the resulting Rio Six Point Action Plan and past and ongoing discussions, the Secretariat of the Treaty will continue to implement these activities directly with the CBD.

Another area for closer collaboration could include the REDD+ and biodiversity safeguards, as part of Sustainable Forest Management, and work on Access and Benefit Sharing, including support to member countries in the implementation of the Nagoya protocol for forest species and for genetic resources for food and agriculture.

FAO fully supports the proposal of closely involving FAO decentralized offices in the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

FAO also supports the promotion of biodiversity-related matters in the work of its Governing Bodies and agrees that this could be further strengthened. An excellent opportunity could be to invite the High-level Panel of Experts to examine the importance of biodiversity for smallholder production and livelihoods.

Additional areas for increased collaboration, based on the proposal, could include:

- In addition to the work on introduced fish species and the incorporation of biodiversity-related matters into discussions and guidance for sustainable production systems, FAO could be a strong proponent of having fisheries and aquaculture play a more prominent role in the joint work on biodiversity for food and nutrition security.
- Activities under community-based management in inland and coastal areas and the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries could also be developed under point 1 of the note.
- The interconnected relationship between healthy ecosystems that provide services and their benefit in protecting the health of all species within those systems, but with particular attention to food resources and public health, developing concepts along the lines of *Biodiversity Protecting Livestock Health* and *Biodiversity Protecting Wildlife Health*.
- To facilitate further national and regional implementation of the CBD, the development of tools and guidance for field offices and national agencies, that better integrate agriculture and food security into the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans, could be an excellent joint initiative.
- With respect to the integration of biodiversity concerns into FAO's work on assessment, perspectives and monitoring, collaboration can be initiated in developing ongoing means for assisting national partners in identifying baselines and carrying out ongoing monitoring and adaptive management of strategies to attain the Aichi Targets related to agricultural production systems.
- In terms of working towards joint work on biodiversity for food and nutrition security, this should also include compiling the evidence for the importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services for smallholder agriculture and sustainable production systems, and developing policy recommendations on this basis for the sustainable intensification of production.

- Other proposed priority areas for collaboration include integrating biodiversity into participatory approaches for natural resources managers (NRM), farmer field schools, community-based planning and promoting good governance for sustainable management of land resources.
- Under point 4 of the ES-CBD proposal, household energy security could be included as one of the three security concerns. The decision tools, assessment frameworks and indicator discussions under bioenergy should be useful for the broader discussions on biodiversity and Good Agricultural Practices and food production, particularly when it comes to more integrated production systems.
- Linkages between indirect Land Use Changes and biodiversity could also represent an area of collaboration that would merit to be further explored.
- Point 2, last bullet: [for sustainable production systems] and environmental services (COAG, COFI, and COFO).
- Point 4, introductory paragraph: [Global Biodiversity Outlook Reports], The Cities and Biodiversity Outlook (CBO).
- The ITPGRFA will expand its existing close and direct collaboration with the CBD Secretariat covering all aspects of all PGRFA, as foreseen in their existing MOC. The Secretariat of the Treaty will provide additional information to the CBD Secretariat.

**Joint Initiative
of the Secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity
and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
under the Memorandum of Cooperation between them**

Under their Memorandum of Cooperation the Secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) are launching a Joint Initiative of cooperation, including in particular the following activities.

1. Support to the ratification of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization (NP) and its harmonious implementation with the ITPGRFA and its Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing (MLS)
 - a. Expanded Joint Capacity Building Activities with expanded stakeholder participation and scope
 - b. Continuation of preparation of joint materials on ABS for harmonious implementation of NP and ITPGRFA and its MLS
 - c. Continued coordination and sharing of expertise on information management for access and benefit-sharing (ABS), as already developed by ITPGRFA-MLS and as far as useful for implementation of NP Clearing House, including sharing and secondment of expertise
 - d. Facilitation of greater interaction between memberships, including through joint expert meetings and discussions
2. Joint initiative for on-farm conservation, sustainable use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (PGRFA) and protected areas
 - a. Joint research and publication on Aichi target of sustainability in agriculture and matching the sustainability targets of the ITPGRFA and the Strategic Plan and Aichi targets
 - b. Sharing of results relevant for CBD from the Programmatic Approach of the Benefit-sharing Fund of the International Treaty on PGRFA for keeping farmers ahead of climate change and conserving PGRFA on-farm
 - c. Joint case studies on on-farm conservation and management of PGRFA and its facilitation through relevant ABS agreements
 - d. Development of joint components in the sustainable use work programmes of the CBD and ITPGRFA
 - e. Activities on traditional knowledge related to PGRFA and Farmers' Rights
3. Joint initiative for the promotion of the importance of biodiversity and plant genetic resources for food and agriculture for food security under a changing climate
 - a. Joint awareness raising events, including at High-level Round Tables, COP11, UN General Assembly, etc
 - b. Joint promotion material
 - c. Joint communication work
 - d. Increased presence and contribution of the ITPGRFA Secretariat to CBD events and SCBD to ITPGRFA events





Ref.: SCBD/OES/BD/80089

1 June 2012

Dear Mr. Steiner,

As agreed during our very useful discussions held earlier this week on 29 May 2012, I am writing to set out some ideas on possible areas for enhanced collaboration between the CBD Secretariat and UNEP.

I believe that with the adoption of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the Nagoya Protocol as well as the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (2011-2020), the Convention and the Cartagena Protocol have reached a mature stage. We have a clear globally-agreed agenda for the next decade and now we have to focus and redouble our efforts to promote, facilitate and support national implementation by Parties.

As you are aware, I have accepted the challenge of leading the CBD Secretariat at this time with the strong conviction that we have to change the way we work in order to enhance implementation. I have discussed my ideas in this regard with the Bureau of the COP and also presented them to the WGRI-4, and have received positive feedback from Parties. Strengthened partnerships with relevant organizations will be key to enhancing national implementation, especially given that the CBD Secretariat is not an implementing agency.

As I mentioned on Tuesday we have recently held a number of very productive meetings with UNDP, FAO, IUCN and several other organizations, individually and through the EMG-IMG on Biodiversity, to explore how each of them could contribute to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. I am very heartened by the positive responses I have received. For example, UNDP are developing a specific strategy for biodiversity and the Aichi targets are the primary focus of IUCN's new strategy to be launched at the World Conservation Congress in Jeju. Mr. Jose Graziano da Silva, FAO Director-General, has also personally assured me of his intention to explore how FAO and the Convention can work more closely together to promote a mutually supportive approach to biodiversity and food security.

Mr. Achim Steiner
Executive Director
United Nations Environment Programme
Email: executiveoffice@unep.org



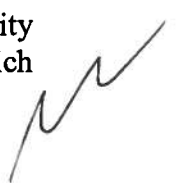
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I would also like to express my satisfaction with the cooperation with UNEP-WCMC which Jon Hutton and I are working on, including support for the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook. We shall also cooperate with the interim Secretariat of IPBES on this and other issues. I would also like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to you as Chair, and to Mr. Hossein Fadei as secretary for the important work of the Environment Management Group in facilitating system-wide support for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and wish to underline the continuing importance of the IMG-Biodiversity in this regard.

We are, of course, very grateful to UNEP for the support accorded to the Convention and its Protocols to date. But as we have discussed, I am convinced that there is room to further strengthen this relationship. As the UN's leading entity for the environment, I am expecting UNEP to play a particularly important role in promoting, facilitating and supporting implementation of the Convention and its Protocols by Parties. In this line, I would like to propose the following key areas that UNEP may wish to explore:

- (1) **Greater visibility to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets as well as the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety 2011-2020** on the UNEP website, publications and outreach materials. As widely acknowledged, the two strategic plans represent the globally agreed agenda for biodiversity and biosafety respectively over the next decade. I am expecting UNEP to promote them more prominently. I would also like to explore how we could work together to systematically promote Aichi Target 1.
 - (2) **More explicit attention to biodiversity and related issues in UNEP's Medium Term Strategy.** The analysis in the MTS of the external environment should recognize globally agreed priorities such as those embedded in the Strategic Plan and Aichi Targets. The plan may also need to give more visibility to the role of the Conventions and international agreements in this regard. Consideration might also be given to whether and how UNEP could address threats from invasive alien species.
 - (3) **Enhanced the support from UNEP's regional offices, especially through the regional MEA Focal Points.** We very much appreciate the strong support provided to the Convention and its Protocols by the MEA focal point staff, including for the regional workshop on updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs), and we are very pleased to hear that funding is available to allow their continued service for a further period. We look forward to further developing this collaboration so that our staff here at the Secretariat and UNEP staff can work together to provide technical assistance to the large portfolio off GEF-funded projects on revising and updating NBSAPS. The regional MEA focal points in particular have the opportunity for more frequent interaction with countries and we are keen to further draw on this opportunity as part of the broader efforts and partnerships to improve support to Parties at the regional and sub-regional levels.
 - (4) **Building biodiversity observation networks and strengthening UNEP's biodiversity-related data and statistics services.** We have made important progress in recent years in indicator development and reporting (as evidenced in GBO-3 and associated peer reviewed scientific publications) partly due to the support from the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership convened by UNEP-WCMC. But biodiversity data, based on observations, remains very limited, especially for biodiversity-rich
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tropical areas. We urgently need to improve on this situation, working with GEO-BON and other parts of the GEOSS network. This would allow us to effectively monitor progress and inform the Conference of the Parties on “course-corrections” needed to achieve the Aichi targets. I believe that we can work together closely to advocate for much greater investment in these areas with the expectation that in the medium-term UNEP should be able to develop a comprehensive environmental statistics capability, akin to FAOSTAT. This would be an important complement to UNEP’s work in facilitating the establishment of IPBES.

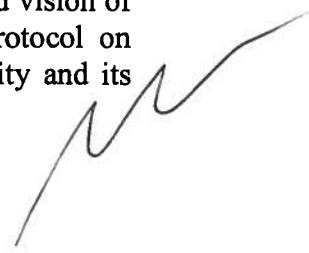
(5) Greater cooperation on specific programmatic issues where both UNEP and the CBD Secretariat have significant technical capability and interest. These include:

- a. marine and coastal biodiversity, including land-based aspects, in support of Aichi targets 6, 7, 8, 10 and 11 in particular, and in this regard further enhanced cooperation with the regional seas organizations and the GPA;
- b. ecosystem based approaches to climate change adaptation and mitigation, including REDD+, in support of Aichi targets 5, 10, 14 and 15 in particular;
- c. valuation, including the economics of biodiversity and ecosystem services, as well as payment for ecosystem services and related mechanisms, in support of Aichi targets 2, 14 and 20 in particular, and the work of TEEB and the Geneva based UNEP team in this regard;
- d. sustainable production and consumption, including by business, in support of Aichi target 4 in particular, and the work of the Paris-based team in this regard; and
- e. biosafety, including assisting Parties to further develop and implement their national biosafety frameworks, taking into account the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety 2011-2020, and to ratify the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress.

(6) Support for the development of national ABS frameworks in line with the Nagoya Protocol. There is a clear need among Parties for support in developing national legislative, administrative and policy measures as well as human and institutional capacity to meet their obligations under the Nagoya Protocol for its early entry into force and implementation. I would like to explore how UNEP, possibly together with UNDP and FAO and with the support of GEF and interested bilateral donors, might contribute in this regard, taking into account the experience with the biosafety national frameworks.

I realize that this is an ambitious list and I appreciate that you may face constraints in terms of the UNEP programme of work and budget. Nevertheless, I look forward to your responses on these proposals and to further discussions.

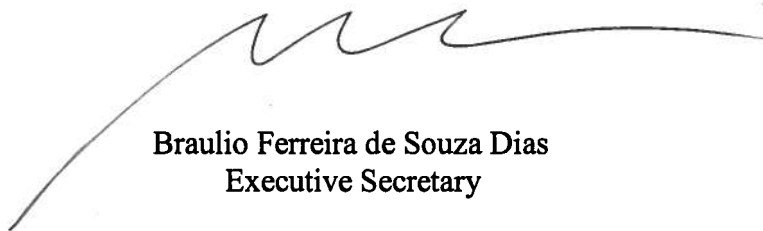
Partnerships will be a key element of my approach as CBD Executive Secretary. I am convinced that it is only through working together that we will achieve the mission and vision of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. I believe that the work done under the Convention on Biological Diversity and its



Protocols, and other conventions and agreements, can be seen as successful and positive examples of the achievements of the UNEP family as a whole.

I look forward to welcoming you in Montreal later this year at a mutually convenient time.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a series of fluid, connected loops and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias
Executive Secretary



Memorandum

TO : Achim Steiner
Executive Director
UNEP

FROM : Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias
Executive Secretary
CBD

DATE : 24 September 2012

SUBJECT : Areas of enhanced collaboration between the CBD Secretariat and UNEP
– Your memo DELC/BK/CN/y dated 12 September 2012

I welcome your positive response to my suggestion to strengthen collaboration at the programmatic level between UNEP and the CBD Secretariat aimed at enhancing support to Parties in implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. I particularly appreciate the analysis you have provided in the annex to your memo, which points to the multitude of activities of common interest and opportunities to collaborate and enhance synergies.

Given the range of activities you have listed and their varied nature, ranging from those involving programming and requiring approval by the Governing Council, staffing and donor support, to technical issues I suggest that we move forward along the following lines:

- We encourage our respective staff to draw on the analysis you have provided of areas in which cooperation between SCBD and UNEP is warranted at a technical level (and in many cases already taking place) with a view to systematically explore avenues to maximize synergies, mutual support and recognition, including through partnerships each of our organizations may have with third parties, aimed at enhancing our support to countries in the implementation of their biodiversity commitments. I believe this could be done with minimal bureaucratic effort in most cases.
- In our discussions with donors we make reference to areas of collaboration with UNEP that depend on voluntary contributions through UNEP and express our appreciation for such contributions and support for their continuation. This is particularly true in the case of the MEA Focal Points in UNEP regional offices who have been invaluable in their support to the increased level of capacity-building, experience-sharing, and technical-exchange activities



Convention on
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Life in harmony, into the future
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undertaken by the Secretariat since the adoption of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

- In our discussions with Government representatives, we reiterate key themes in which we see UNEP further enhancing its support to the implementation of the biodiversity agenda and highlight areas of a more strategic nature that might need to be incorporated into the next UNEP Medium Term Strategy and future biennial Programmes of Work.
- We use opportunities arising from the formulation of Strategic Development Goals as well as existing mechanisms such as the Environment Management Group to systematically demonstrate the spirit of collaboration and support between the CBD Secretariat and UNEP.

In addition I suggest that we undertake an internal assessment of the collaboration between the CBD Secretariat and UNEP perhaps in 12 to 15 months which would focus in particular on the areas you have highlighted in the annex to your memo in order to review progress and identify further opportunities. On our side, Mr. Lyle Glowka, email: lyle.glowka@cbd.int, Tel: +1 514 2877022 will act the coordination for such a review/assessment.

I am pleased to confirm that your Memorandum has already been shared with the COP Bureau and it will also be made available as a document for the next meeting of the COP Bureau to be held on 7 October 2012 in Hyderabad and will subsequently be shared with Parties through their regional meetings. I believe that content and spirit of the Memorandum will be viewed by delegations attending COP-11 as a major step forward in the further implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

I look forward to discussing any additional ideas with you at the margins of COP-11 and elsewhere and to our continued cooperation in responding to the global environmental challenges that we face today.

Regards.



UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement

Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente


Программа Организации Объединенных Наций по окружающей среде

برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة

联合国环境规划署



MEMORANDUM

To:	Mr. Braulio Dias, Executive Secretary, CBD	Date:	12 September 2012
From:	Achim Steiner Executive Director 	Reference:	DELC/BK/CN/yo
Subject:	Areas of enhanced collaboration between the CBD Secretariat and UNEP		

Let me once again thank you for your memorandum dated 1 June 2012 in which you have outlined potential areas of collaboration between the CBD Secretariat and UNEP's divisions, programmes and activities. I very much welcome this initiative as it will enable us to deepen and more systematically plan our respective work in support of the particular points and decisions taken at Nagoya.

Following consultation in UNEP, a listing and description of the main activity items, which could benefit from increased collaborative arrangements with the CBD Secretariat, is attached. Special emphasis has been given to those areas identified and proposed in your correspondence dated 1 June 2012.

Some elements and aspects of the proposed actions are subject to future programming, approval by UNEP's Governing Council and/or general availability of resources. To facilitate more detailed discussion I would, therefore, invite you and other officers in the CBD Secretariat to follow-up separately with UNEP Headquarters on the practical aspects and arrangements for implementation of the individual items. Mr. Carlos Martin-Novella, e-mail: Carlos.Martin-novella@unep.org, Tel: +254-20-7626725, mobile: +254-719 867649, will act as focal-point/clearing house for coordinating the overall follow-up of this memorandum within the UNEP Secretariat – including direct consultations with individual divisions/branches in UNEP.

Further, I believe it would be good to share a copy of this Memorandum with the Presidency and Members of the CBD-CoP-10 Bureau to document that we are making very good progress.

I look forward to further increasing the cooperation between UNEP and the CBD Secretariat.

cc: UNEP SMT Members

Encl.

Annex: Possible areas of enhanced collaboration and cooperation between the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and UNEP¹

1. Greater visibility to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets as well as the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety 2011-2020

UNEP's Division of Communications and Public Information (DCPI) will support the CBD Secretariat (SCBD) in generating "greater visibility to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity targets as well as the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety 2011-2020 on the website, publications and outreach materials and in specific the Aichi Target 1 ('By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.')

While the Aichi targets are already prominently on the website of Biodiversity Indicators Partnership that is managed by UNEP-WCMC (www.bipindicators.net), both UNEP and UNEP-WCMC are considering ways in which the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity targets can be aptly presented on the websites www.unep.org and www.unep-wcmc.org. In doing so, UNEP can showcase the value of biodiversity and actions to conserve it by drawing on a wide range of existing materials including TEEB publicity materials and knowledge/information generated via UNEP and UNEP-GEF projects.

UNEP is shortly to launch a food waste campaign in partnership with the food and food supply/retailing industry world-wide. This offers an opportunity to explore a partnership with these key sectors in respect to biodiversity and public awareness.

In addition, UNEP will continue seizing opportunities to raise the profile and provide greater visibility to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets as well as the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety 2011-2020, and by extension the range of initiatives to implement the Convention and its Protocols, across its programmatic documents and outreach materials.

For example, the Freshwater and Marine Ecosystem Branch is in the process of re-designing its programme website under www.unep.org. Over the coming months it will contain a range of thematic areas including Ecosystem Based Management (EBM), Blue Carbon, Coastal EBA, Green Economy in Blue World, GPA incl. pollution, water quality and marine litter, Coral Reefs, SIDS, Regional Seas and more. UNEP's freshwater and marine work is addressing many Aichi Biodiversity Targets, which will be given prominent visibility on the redeveloped Freshwater and Marine Ecosystem website. This includes for example developing strategic efforts such as a proposed global partnership on EBM Capacity Building and a coral reef partnership across Regional Seas.

An example of a recently implemented initiative is the publication of outreach materials on the "20 Best UNEP/GEF Projects in 20 Years" which showcased 12 Biodiversity and Biosafety projects. These are all available on www.unep.org/dgef, and in addition, are being highlighted on UNEP's home page on a weekly basis all throughout 2012 as part of our celebration of the

¹ Annex to the Memo from Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director of UNEP, to Mr. Braulio Dias, Executive Secretary of the CBD, 3 September 2012.

20 years of GEF and 40 years of UNEP. We will continue engaging in more collaborative efforts to highlight GEF biodiversity-related projects.

DCPI will over the next few weeks organize a brainstorming between SCBD and UNEP DCPI and the other relevant biodiversity-related conventions on how best to move forward and join forces to promote these aims. Some approaches that could be explored include media outreach (press releases, report launches, attendance of the Spokesperson at major conferences and events), publications (such as Our Planet and Tunza featuring/highlighting the Plans and Targets), audiovisual support (including news packages on UNIFEED focusing on key activities/events/milestones of the Plans), messaging (at corporate events such as World Environment Day, Tunza Youth Conference), the possible engagement of Goodwill Ambassadors to highlight certain aspects of the plans, internet (uploading content specific to biodiversity and linking with CBD and other biodiversity-related Convention's web pages), assisting with social media when possible, etc. All these elements could be reflected in the communications project under the relevant sub-programs of UNEP's programme of work.

2. More explicit attention to biodiversity and related issues in UNEP's Medium Term Strategy

UNEP is currently in the process of developing its Programme of Work for 2014-2015. The proposed document will incorporate further changes to bring out more clearly biodiversity and the Aichi biodiversity targets. In particular, the proposal will integrate text on biodiversity as a key component of UNEP's approach in relating to ecosystem based adaptation, REDD (subprogramme 1), ecosystem management in general (subprogramme 3) and in environment under review (subprogramme 7). Biodiversity synergies are covered under Environmental governance in the proposed PoW.

In relation to the Aichi biodiversity targets, it should be noted that the programme of work is expected to contribute to the countries' achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Targets under many areas but in particular:

- Expected accomplishment (a) under Sub-programme 1, climate change- ecosystem based adaptation.
- Expected accomplishment (c) under Sub-programme 1, climate change –REDD.
- Expected accomplishment (a) under Sub-programme 3: Ecosystem management in relation to food security and water.
- Expected accomplishment (b) under Sub-programme 3: Ecosystem management in relation to coastal and marine issues.
- Expected accomplishment (c) under Sub-programme 3: ecosystem management - here there is work on valuation of ecosystems and biodiversity, ABS, mainstreaming, NBSAPs.
- Expected accomplishment (a) under Sub-programme 4: environmental governance - synergies work in relation to the biodiversity MEAs; plus coherence across the UN system (i.e. EMG) including MEAs.
- Expected accomplishment (c) under Sub-programme 4: mainstreaming environment into development and into UNDAFs (which includes mainstreaming of MEA priorities).
- Expected accomplishment (a) under Sub-programme 7: environment under review - where there is a potential for tracking progress against the agreed goals.

3. Enhance the support from UNEP's regional offices, especially through the regional MEA Focal Points

The UNEP regional biodiversity MEA Focal Points (MEA FPs) have been actively supporting the work of the CBD and other biodiversity-related MEAs over the past years by coordinating, convening and catalyzing technical assistance and administrative support to the Parties to the CBD, and by providing policy guidance. They also collaborate very closely with SCBD.

Since the MEA FP programme operate within very limited resources made available from the EC and Norway, the specific collaborative activities suggested below are subject to the availability of additional funding. Depending on the nature of services required from and contributions needed towards a co-organized activity funding of additional costs such as the travel of MEA FPs should be charged to the budget of the activity. To enhance this mode of cooperation in a more systematic manner, which not only effectively utilizes the MEA FPs, but also capitalizes on the resource of the entire Regional Offices, the following areas of support are suggested.

NBSAPs revision: With regards to GEF funded projects on revising and updating NBSAPs, MEA FPs are available to support the SCBD in communicating with parties and providing technical guidance on an ad-hoc basis. This role would need to be systematically defined especially in relationship with multiple partner agencies for this task.

NBSAPs Updating Capacity Building workshops: MEA FPs stand ready to support the SCBD on a number of workshops with varied areas of administrative and technical inputs, including initial communications with host countries, and parties as well as coordinating logistics training workshops, and providing technical support.

Nagoya Protocol on ABS: MEAs FPs would undertake activities to raise awareness on the importance of signing and ratifying the Nagoya Protocol on ABS. These include development of different tools including factsheets about the Protocol to be distributed in major regional meetings. In collaboration with UNEP-GEF Unit, the MEA FPs will continue developing projects, to be funded either under the Nagoya Protocol Implementation fund or under the GEF Trust Fund, to support an accelerated ratification of, or accession to, the Nagoya Protocol, as well as the preparation of broad stakeholder involvement in its implementation in 40 countries, predominantly in Africa.

MEAs programmatic synergies: The MEA FPs would promote coherence and programmatic synergies and interlink-ages between CBD and other Biodiversity-related MEAs (CITES, CMS, WHC, Ramsar Convention, and ITPGRFA) at the national and regional levels. This includes harmonizing related cross cutting targets, action plans, projects and initiatives under national plans and reporting in compliance with other MEAs. It is the role of MEA FPs to liaise on behalf of other MEA secretariats under each MEA activity and seek to strengthen communication between national focal points to mainstream MEA synergies at the national level.

Technology transfer and scientific cooperation: UNEP, through its global mandate, its Bali Strategic Plan and now the IPBES process has a clear mandate with regards to Technology Transfer and Scientific Cooperation and the MEA FPs have a clear role contributing and coordinating this process including by providing themselves scientific and technical knowledge within their respective expertise in the regions.

Thematic and Cross-cutting issues: The CBD, other MEAs and UNEP host a number of common programmes on thematic biodiversity issues within their respective PoWs (eg. Marine ecosystems, Invasive species, Protected areas, TEEB, transboundary wetlands... etc) that need to be closely coordinated for optimum delivery of technical support and know-how to the parties and regional partners. The MEA FPs would coordinate and catalyze these programmes more effectively amongst international partners in the regions while capitalizing on existing regional initiatives, mechanisms, long standing networks, and experts.

Awareness Raising and Outreach: The MEA FPs can further increase awareness in the regions on MEA issues at national and regional activities and fora, through presentations, statements, interviews, articles, press releases... etc. Also they can undertake the distribution of existing and additional MEA outreach materials in the region through workshops, mail post, UNEP websites, social networks and through electronic means.

Representation in regional mechanisms and meetings: The MEA FPs coordinate regional initiatives under existing regional mechanisms such as SPREP for Asia Pacific, League of Arab States for West Asia, African Union Commission and the African Ministerial Environment Conference in Africa to strengthen regional implementation of Biodiversity MEAs and promote regional scientific cooperation. MEA FPs would support the MEA secretariats under such mechanisms by promoting their programme of work, especially COP decisions, and strengthening their regional implementation through catalyzing partnerships and mobilizing resources.

Administrative/Logistical support: The MEA FPs and the UNEP Regional Offices would facilitate administrative and logistical services for SCBD in convening capacity building workshops and supporting parties in preparing compliance reports. These services would include but are not confined to:

- Contacting potential host countries, organizing logistics such as hotels, contracts, transportation, field trips, interpretation, and preparation of banners, stationary.
- Purchasing air tickets and arranging for DSA distribution,
- Preparation fact sheets and facilitating translations,
- Communication of info notes, notifications, awareness and outreach materials through UNEP networks and communication tools

In addition to the involvement of the MEA FPs, UNEP, through its Division on Regional Cooperation is ready to strengthen collaboration with SCBD in the following areas:

- Supporting coordinating cooperation with and involvement of Major Groups and stakeholders, including indigenous Peoples, to achieve synergies and to increase outreach to civil society, including through UNEP's Global Civil Society Forum, regional Consultation and relevant CBD meetings.
- Increasing collaboration on South-South cooperation including linking the CBD's network of centers of excellence and UNEP's South-South Cooperation Exchange Mechanism.
- Mainstreaming and integrating biodiversity and biosafety strategic goals in regional and national development planning including through UNDAFs processes and UNCTs activities.

4. Building biodiversity observation networks and strengthening UNEP's biodiversity-related data and statistics services

Regarding this point it is particularly relevant to mention UNEP's ongoing collaboration in context of the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership, which is funded through a GEF grant. UNEP-WCMC facilitates the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership and has already agreed to mobilize the partnership for the development of the indicators for the Aichi Biodiversity targets and for reporting on the progress towards achieving the targets and will continue making every effort in continuing to coordinate the BIP, and to develop the Partnership and its activities to meet the needs of Parties to the CBD. In this context, WCMC collaborates with GEO-BON on the identification of biodiversity observation gaps and challenges that need to be addressed in order to measure progress towards the Aichi Targets, and leads the GEO-BON working group on indicators. Working with the BIP, UNEP-WCMC also provides support to parties to the CBD on their development of national biodiversity indicators in the framework of updating the national Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), by inter alia supporting the organization and implementation of regional capacity-strengthening workshops and the development of guidance materials, again in collaboration with the SCBD.

Additionally, DEWA and UNEP-WCMC are working together on the further development of UNEP-Live, and this includes investigation of possibilities for developing an environmental statistics capability analogous to FAOSTAT. Collaboration with the SCBD as this work evolves would be very welcome.

Although the GEF does not normally grant projects focusing only on statistics, there is a possibility to explore a "Targeted Research" project along with UNEP-WCMC and STAP.

Furthermore, many countries are requesting additional support for establishing nationally-based Clearing House Mechanisms that are more comprehensive and more synergistic with other conventions. One could explore possibilities of a GEF project similar to IW:Learn (e.g. "BD:Learn") that would complement IPBES but with greater focus on building capacities in countries to manage the information and statistics. This would build on previous GEF support to CHMs in countries.

Regarding initiatives on marine biodiversity the following opportunities for collaboration exist:

Global marine assessment for policy support: Capacity building at the regional to global level in support of the Regular Process for a Global Marine Assessment (now known as the Global Ocean Assessment) to support science-policy linkages and decision-making on marine management and governance which includes but is not limited to the themes of the marine and coastal related Aichi Targets. UNEP, at the request of member states, has been supporting Regional Seas based capacity building workshops, and with more scheduled for later this year, as well as working with member states through the Regional Seas Programme to support the undertaking of the assessments with a target of 2014 for completion of the Global Ocean Assessment.

Environmental assessment in Regional Seas: Work is in planning to support regional-level assessment across Regional Seas based on a set of global common indicators focusing on key marine ecosystem issues and sources of stress and threats impacting biodiversity and the functioning of marine ecosystems. The indicators will be in line with the items for assessment for

the Regular Process and matched with the Sustainable Development Goals. A set of global indicators would be identified to be applicable to all the regions, which should constitute key features and functions of the marine ecosystems. In addition, each Regional Seas programme will be able to choose additional sub-set of indicators relevant to their specific issues. The indicators will be linked with ecosystem-based objectives and targets, so that indicator-based tracking of their achievements would be possible.

Coral Reef monitoring: Present UNEP technical and financial support towards Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN) focuses on strengthening the scientific rigor of its assessments, enhancing impact of its periodic reporting, and broadening its base of collaborators. This encompasses input towards the present process of detailed analysis of long-term coral reef ecosystem change, based on which additional or enhanced indicators and methods for broad application can be developed, as well as promoting greater integration between GCRMN and the Regional Seas, including on application of methodology, collaboration on regional analyses, reporting and capacity building, and dissemination of findings to governments and other stakeholders. Both UNEP and the CBD are among the founding organizations of GCRMN, and serve on its Management Group. GCRMN operates under the auspices of the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI).

UNEP and UNEP-WCMC have also initiated collaboration towards enhancing the global coral reef spatial data layer hosted by UNEP-WCMC. This includes defining common attributes for coral reef spatial data, improving the consistency in how these are applied, and creating a linked data layer for coral health status data updating by GCRMN collaborators and other reef monitoring groups. This will support publication of periodic assessment reports and outlooks for informing policy, as well as enhance the utility of the global coral reef spatial data layer for research and planning efforts as well as for communication/outreach.

5. Cooperation on specific programmatic issues

- a. Marine and coastal biodiversity, including land-based aspects, in support of Aichi targets 6, 7, 8, 10 and 11 in particular, and in this regard further enhanced cooperation with the regional seas organizations and the GPA;

There is a broad range of opportunities of collaboration regarding coastal and marine biodiversity; in particular as UNEP is implementing a comprehensive marine and coastal programme addressing a range of Aichi Biodiversity Targets in which SCBD is an important partner. UNEP sees important scope and opportunity for further collaboration with SCBD in the development and implementation of relevant marine and coastal activities. Key current working areas include:

Capacity building on ecosystem-based management (EBM): UNEP is implementing a comprehensive capacity building effort on marine and coastal EBM across regional seas. This includes development of global decision-making support tools, guidance resources, regional training and policy advice and national demonstration activities. A coordinated effort to assist collaboration and adoption of an Ecosystem Approach to Regional Seas is in development, including regional-level sustainable development goals, targets and indices and systems to track their future performance. An Introductory Guide on Marine & Coastal EBM has recently been developed by UNEP to support regional capacity building and demonstration activities. UNEP is also proposing a 'Global Partnership on Capacity Building for Ecosystem Based Management of Oceans and Coasts – Pursuing Compatible Objectives for Sustainable Development through Integrated Spatial Planning, Management

and Policies in follow-up to Rio+20, where SCBD and other stakeholders are regarded key potential partners.

Marine Protected Areas (MPAs): UNEP is engaged in a range of activities to support effective and long-term sustainable MPAs. This includes a recent global study, 'Governing Marine Protected Areas— Getting the Balance Right', which in turn has led to development of a governance framework and guidance to planners and practitioners on how to combine top-down, bottom-up and market approaches in design of effective and equitable governance of MPAs in different contexts. Future testing and demonstration of the framework is in the pipeline across Regional Seas. Other normative MPA work includes development of recommendations on the use of MPAs as a fisheries management tool in collaboration with FAO and other partners. Moreover, UNEP is currently implementing a set of large MPA demonstration projects in West Africa, Caribbean and East Pacific, including innovative approaches to management of long-distance migration corridors and essential habitats of large marine mammals.

Marine spatial planning tools and demonstration: UNEP is collaborating with SCBD to collate and synthesize national and regional experiences from Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans on marine spatial planning (MSP) and to develop guidance and policy advice on MSP as a means to implement Ecosystem-based Management. This involves future demonstration projects and training activities. The work assists addressing CBD-SBSTTA16 Recommendation XVI/6, particularly compilation of information on experience and use of marine spatial planning and consolidated practical guidance for applying marine spatial planning in order to complement and further enhance existing cross-sectoral efforts on the application of the ecosystem approach to the implementation of integrated marine and coastal management and design and establishment of conservation and management measures including marine protected areas and other area-based management efforts. UNEP is planning with SCBD the developing of a web-based information-sharing system linking existing information sources on marine spatial planning on the web.

Addressing biodiversity concerns in sustainable fisheries: There is on-going collaboration between UNEP and SCBD, FAO, IUCN and other partners to address biodiversity concerns in sustainable fisheries, which includes for e.g. preparation of technical advice reviewing and synthesizing current knowledge and possible ways forward to address impacts of Destructive Fishing Practices, Unsustainable Fishing and Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing on Marine Biodiversity and Habitats (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/INF/6), incl. recommendations on policy-making and management aiming at the mitigation, reduction and, where possible, elimination of the impacts of fisheries on biodiversity and habitats. Future planned activities will include review of impacts of fisheries on biodiversity and ecosystems in Regional Seas and collaboration with RFMO's on development of management and governance systems to reduce fisheries impacts on biodiversity. A related line of work aims to further evolve and build national capacity for implementation of networks of coastal 'fish refugia' aiming at protecting biodiversity and essential fish habitats (e.g. mangroves, seagrass beds, estuaries, coral reefs) underpinning fish-stock recruitment as prerequisite for food-security of tropical coastal communities. UNEP will develop with partners including the SCBD a report on fisheries issues in Regional seas. UNEP is also proposing to lead on the indicators for establishing baseline and monitoring baselines in impacts of fishing on biodiversity of ecosystems within the framework of regular process and regional Seas.

SIDS – UNEP Island Ecosystem Programme: UNEP has initiated a number of activities in identifying, quantifying and valuing ecosystem services to be incorporated into

management decision-making, targeting coastal and marine ecosystems, forest ecosystems, freshwater ecosystems and other terrestrial ecosystems. Based on the previous and ongoing UNEP activities in SIDS, including projects on integrated watershed and coastal area management (IWCAM) integrated water resources and wastewater management. Based on the perceived needs for island specific ecosystem management approaches, UNEP is embarking on a programme on island ecosystem management across Regional Seas with three phases: 1: Development of guidance documents on island ecosystem management approach, including planning guidelines, island ecosystem service valuation, island specific trade-off analysis. 2: Pilot application of the guidance documents to selected sites in order to demonstrate the usefulness and applicability of the guidance documents, and actual benefits that accrue by undertaking island ecosystem management approaches; and 3: Collation and dissemination of lessons learnt and good practices of island ecosystem management through various regional fora and bodies, including replication of good practices across SIDS.

Coral reefs ecosystems: UNEP is developing a global coral reef partnership with the Regional Seas programmes, as a contribution towards Aichi Target 10 and Rio+20 outcomes in particular. The partnership aligns with the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) Call to Action and Framework for Action and builds on current and past activities including the International Coral Reef Action Network (ICRAN). The partnership aims to catalyse effective, ecosystem-based coral reef management, through development of tools and guidance at the global level, and pilot testing, adoption and application through regional seas. A community of practice for ecosystem-based management of coral reefs will support networking and capacity development. Main thematic work areas include management and adaptation planning for resilient coral reef seascapes during climate change and ocean acidification, fishery support through networks of refugia, water quality standards, and creating revenue streams through ecosystem service mapping and valuation.

GPA: In relation to the work of the GPA, potential areas of collaboration include, inter alia, impacts of marine debris on marine biodiversity. On the later UNEP has established a Global Partnership on Marine Debris and SCBD is already a partner. UNEP hopes to seek GEF support on a micro-plastics project and would seek SCBDs collaboration in this work.

Marine biodiversity beyond National Jurisdiction: UNEP is working with FAO, IUCN, UNEP-WCMC, Regional Seas and other partners to develop and implement a new large concerted effort through support from GEF to achieve efficiency and sustainability in the use of deep-sea living resources and biodiversity conservation in the areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ), through the systematic application of an ecosystem approach for: i) improving sustainable management practices for deep-sea fisheries, taking into account the impacts on related ecosystems, ii) protecting vulnerable marine ecosystems (VMEs) and Ecologically or Biologically Significant Areas (EBSAs) and iii) practicing improved area-based planning for deep sea ecosystems.

In addition UNEP-WCMC continues to work with a range of partners on achieving better availability and accessibility of data on marine and coastal biodiversity, including through the Ocean Data Viewer and the global Islands Database, and through the evolving Global Marine Data Partnership. This work is embryonic and needs further investment, but the groundwork has been prepared.

- b. Ecosystem based approaches to climate change adaptation and mitigation, including REDD+, in support of Aichi targets 5, 10, 14 and 15 in particular:

UNEP-WCMC is expanding its portfolio of working with parties to the CBD on mapping their carbon stocks and overlaying them with biodiversity-related datasets, in order to enable parties to realise biodiversity safeguards in mitigation and adaptation measures and to prepare for REDD+ under the UN-REDD Programme. In addition, UNEP-WCMC is working with other colleagues within UNEP to support national institutions in Nepal, Peru and Uganda to develop and implement tools and methodologies to raise awareness on how to build resilience through ecosystem-based adaptation in mountain ecosystems. This work could certainly be extended into other ecosystems, and we would be happy to explore opportunities to do so. Meanwhile, at the global level UNEP-WCMC has been working with the SCBC and the LifeWeb initiative on the Interactive Carbon Calculator, which provides users with initial estimates of carbon stored in existing protected areas or any polygon drawn on a global map, opportunities for forest restoration and the status of the forest within these areas, and information on how they relate to protected areas and Key Biodiversity Areas.

UNEP will seek to align its work more explicitly with achievement of the Aichi Targets, in particular Targets 5 (halving loss of forests and natural habitats), Targets 7 (sustainable agriculture and sustainable forest management), Target 11 (increasing terrestrial protected area coverage from 12 to 17 percent), and Targets 14 and 15 (safeguarding essential ecosystem services for human well-being, and restoring at least 15 per cent of all degraded ecosystems). In doing so, it is clear that UNEP cannot achieve any of the Targets by itself but will explore, in revising the current POW, how it can provide maximum, targeted and effective support in particular to developing countries in achieving these Targets and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

As an example of how work is already organized to support these Targets, UNEP, through the UN-REDD Programme, is preparing and implementing REDD+ activities (reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation; conservation of forests; sustainable management of forests; and enhancement of forest carbon stocks) in over 20 developing countries. These activities directly contribute to Aichi Targets 5, 7, 11, 14 and 15, and indirectly to a number of other Targets.

UNEP has several lines of work active in the field of Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EBA) with the view to assist countries develop effective and long-term sustainable adaptation responses through new tools, guidance, training and demonstration to build resilience of communities and ecosystems to climate change. Collaboration and good interaction is already ongoing between UNEP and SCBD to advance this work. An Ecosystem-Based Adaptation Decision-Support Framework (EBA-DSF) is in development to assist planners and decision-makers select, design, implement and track EBA measures. Future steps include testing by national planners and practitioners in a number of pilot projects and development of a training package with technical guidance and recommendations to support future national NAP implementation. Pilot activities include for example training and demonstration of coastal EBA in SIDS, mountain, drylands and river-basins.

The UNEP Blue Forests project is addressing these targets by a) developing standardized methodologies for carbon accounting and valuation of ecosystem services for coastal ecosystems, b) developing pilot projects that support management of coastal systems so that their carbon and ecosystem services functions are maintained, c) exploring the

development of financial instruments or market-based mechanisms to finance management for coastal carbon and ecosystem services, and d) informing international climate negotiations of the value of coastal ecosystems.

- c. Valuation, including the economics of biodiversity and ecosystem services, as well as payment for ecosystem services and related mechanisms, in support of Aichi targets 2, 14 and 20 in particular, and the work of TEEB and the Geneva based UNEP team in this regard; and Sustainable production and consumption, including by business, in support of Aichi target 4 in particular, and the work of the Paris-based team in this regard;

In the context of SCP and based on the findings of the report "Are you a green leader?" as well as the ongoing activities within the TEEB for Business secretariat and Coalition, the TEEB for Business Coalition commissioned a research to identify the areas of greatest business impact on biodiversity and ecosystem services. These impacts will be quantified across over 20 different industrial sectors, including the entire supply chain. In order to address the needs of the companies along the supply chain, and more specifically small and medium sized enterprises, DTIE and SCBD could jointly complement existing guidelines and hands-on methodologies to build local capacities to assess and reduce the impact of businesses, especially small and medium enterprises, on biodiversity and ecosystem services. Such guidelines could be integrated by a compendium of available best practices in the targeted sectors, with specific focus on appropriate solutions for small and medium sized enterprises.

In addition, UNEP launched the Global Initiative for Resource Efficient Cities (GI-REC) with the aim of enhancing the quality of life in urban areas, particularly in rapidly growing cities in developing countries, while minimizing resource extraction, energy consumption and waste generation, and safeguarding ecosystem services. Providing support to cities for important dimensions of resource efficiency such as undertaking a systemic analysis of resource flows in cities and harmonizing metrics around resource efficiency in cities are some of the key activities that the Initiative will pursue. There is an opportunity to collaborate with the SCBD on the context of the GI-REC particularly in considering the value of ecosystem services to cities. One key activity of this Initiative will be to develop an approach for determining a city's "resource footprint" thus supporting cities in understanding, identifying, and managing their resource flows and potential efficiency gains. Furthermore, the impact of city consumption and production on urban ecosystems and fragile ecosystems in the city periphery is also an issue that the GI-REC will potentially look into.

Recently, UNEP-WCMC and ICF GHK started working with the SCBD and the UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs on assessing the resources needed for achieving the Aichi Biodiversity targets. UNEP-WCMC is helping to coordinate and draw on the work of a range of expert teams working on different targets in order to prepare a paper which provides an aggregated cost, placing it in the context of a range of issues to do with both the difficulties of drawing such information together in a meaningful way, and other costs and benefits. The work provides input to the High-level Panel on Global Assessment of Resources for Implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, which will report to CBD COP 11. This work has been done to a very tight timetable, and there is potential for developing it further following COP if it is thought useful to do so. In addition UNEP-WCMC has been working on valuation in the context of sub-global assessment, in its capacity as the secretariat for the UK National Ecosystem Assessment, and is promoting the

sharing of experience in this area as part of its role in coordinating the Sub-Global Assessment Network (part of the follow up to the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment). At some point it may be useful to consider with the SCBD how NBSAP development and implementation relate to national ecosystem assessments, and how these linkages should be promoted in the future.

A synthesis and a full report on "The Green Economy in a Blue World" were released this year led by UNEP and a range of partners. The report makes the case for including ocean sectors in any Green Economy transition. As an outcome of the Green Economy report, UNEP with its partners GRID-Arendal and Duke University have initiated a TEEB for Oceans study.

UNEP is embarking on a programme on island ecosystem management across Regional Seas with three phases: 1: Development of guidance documents on island ecosystem management approach, including planning guidelines, island ecosystem service valuation, island specific trade-off analysis. 2: Pilot application of the guidance documents to selected sites in order to demonstrate the usefulness and applicability of the guidance documents, and actual benefits that accrue by undertaking island ecosystem management approaches; and 3: Collation and dissemination of lessons learnt and good practices of island ecosystem management through various regional forums and bodies, including replication of good practices across SIDS.

UNEP is working on strengthening the resilience and adaptive capacity of tropical human communities in SIDS that depend on coastal ecosystem services through the UNEP-EU project on Coastal EBA in SIDS. The specific objectives are to: (a) enhance and demonstrate integrated planning tools and technical guidance to assist decision-making on coastal EBA interventions; (b) Support relevant authorities in two SIDS where climate change already places intense pressure on human livelihoods and coastal and marine resources enabling them to select, plan and implement practical EBA measures; and (c) Transfer good practices and experiences gained to other coastal regions as means to scale up EBA planning and implementation, including informing supportive adaptation policies and strategies and preparation of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs). UNEP has already initiated dialogue with SCBD to collaborate where possible using the same pilot areas.

A specific report on Green Economy in SIDS is in preparation by UNEP and UN DESA SIDS Unit for release at the General Assembly in late 2012, which highlights the challenges and opportunities of the Green Economy approach for SIDS. It aims to support countries development of their own perspective and implementation of Green Economy based on their particular needs and circumstances. The document also focuses on SIDS concerns, risks, benefits, challenges and opportunities in the context of a green economy, and looks at institutional capacity, strategies and coordination issues for SIDS at the national, regional and interregional levels. The report examines as well how SIDS can take advantage of green economy opportunities to reduce their vulnerability to climate change and promote sustainable growth.

UNEP is now seeking collaboration with countries and organizations to implement The Green Economy Approach in Coastal States and SIDS. UNEP is also working through Regional Seas to build capacity and demonstration activities for ecosystem services valuation to support national management and governance, and support Green Economy.

The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) project is intrinsically linked to the Convention and its implementation, in particular in the context of Articles 11, 13, 20 as well as several Thematic Programmes and Cross-Cutting Issues (including but not limited to Economics, Trade and Incentive Measures and Protected Areas), as well as business engagement (in particular, pursuant to decisions VIII/17, IX/26 and X/21). Cooperation between the UNEP TEEB Office and SCBD is well established as described in the following paragraphs. The active membership of the CBD Executive Secretary to the TEEB Advisory Board is a testimony to this strong relationship.

The initiative has been uniquely successful in raising the interest of policymakers in biodiversity and ecosystem valuation, in particular in the context of the CBD, as witnessed by the number of decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties which explicitly refer to TEEB.

TEEB, in its Phase III, is now focusing on implementation at the national level, thereby directly contributing to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, in particular its Targets 2 and 3. In this context, the UNEP TEEB Office is "facilitating" TEEB-related work at the national level. Under recently approved ENRTP project, the TEEB Office will also more actively guide TEEB studies in up to five developing countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America over 2012-2015. Country selection is taking place in close consultation with the UNEP Regional Office MEA focal points. The TEEB-ENRTP project is to be launched at COP-11.

So as to ensure methodological coherence of the ENRTP-TEEB project, a Guidance Manual will be developed, serving as a practical supplement to the TEEB in National and International Policy Making report. The guidance document will draw from relevant chapters therein as well as from other relevant TEEB reports, including the TEEB Ecological and Economic Foundations. It will provide practical recommendations on the implementation of methodologies for the biophysical assessment of ecosystem services and their economic valuation. The guidance document will be profiled at relevant CBD meetings.

In addition, a TEEB Implementation Guide for the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (working title) is being developed by UFZ, with funding from BfN. This builds on Quick Guides for the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, developed by SCBD. The TEEB/UFZ Guide is to be "launched" at CBD COP-11, on the occasion of a side-event focusing on national TEEB implementation.

Furthermore, the TEEB Advisory Board is represented on the (CBD) High-level Panel on Global Assessment of Resources for implementing the Strategic Plan Opens Consultations with Parties. In this context, UNEP TEEB Office provided input into the development of Resource requirements for Aichi Targets 2-4 – the "Macro-economics" cluster - Progress report for High Level Panel Meeting. Earlier in the year, TEEB also participated in the Dialogue Seminar "Scaling up biodiversity finance" (Quito, 6-9 March 2012).

The CBD will remain a critical platform for showcasing TEEB implementation at the national level. In this context, future collaboration with SCBD may include: (i) the organization, on the margins of CBD and other relevant meetings, of events to facilitate the sharing of experience and lessons learned on implementing TEEB at the regional, national and sub-national levels; (ii) documenting lessons learned on TEEB implementation (and implementation of relevant SP Targets), e.g. in the form of a CBD Technical Series; (iii) further developing the library of TEEB case studies ; (iv) assessing the need for additional

guidance for the implementation of relevant Targets of the Strategic Plan and TEEB projects at the national level; (v) development and maintenance of a roster of TEEB experts .

In addition to the above, collaboration could be envisaged in the context of the planned SCBD-UNDP-UNEP NBSAP support gateway to make it easier for countries to access appropriate guidance, data, training, materials and technical support at each stage of the NBSAP revision process.

Pursuant, in particular, to paragraph 17.(f) of decision X/2 and paragraph 7 of decision X/44 as well as in recognition to the fact that "the national technical capacity to adopt economic valuation approaches and other recommendations of the TEEB study is often recognized as a significant challenge at the national level" , the UNEP TEEB Office has partnered with the SCBD in the organization of a number of sub-regional capacity-building workshops focusing on TEEB; the updating and revision of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs); and valuation and incentive measures. Since the beginning of 2012, four workshops have been organized in the Lebanon, Ethiopia, Chile and Georgia.

In 2013, it is foreseen that UNEP TEEB Office will continue to cooperate with SCBD for the organization of two additional workshops, one in Western Africa, the other in Central America.

In close consultation with a number of partners, including SCBD, the UNEP TEEB Office is currently developing a TEEB training package, building on efforts by TEEB Coordinators and others during Phase II. In this regard, it is worth noting the contribution of SCBD to the TEEB graduate-level course organized at the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies in 2011. The TEEB training package will complement ongoing efforts by partners, including by the SCBD to develop an online training course on valuation and mainstreaming. Surveys were distributed at the aforementioned SCBD/TEEB capacity-building workshops to determine country needs for implementing national valuation studies.

Training is to be delivered at the national level, in particular, in the 5 countries covered by the TEEB-ENRTP project.

Future collaboration with the SCBD in this area may take the form, subject to interest and funding, of: (i) reviewing of respective training/course material; (ii) participation in online and in-person training sessions, including joint organization of webinars; (iii) development of a roster of consultants and resource people to implement training sessions; (iv) further website integration so as to facilitate user navigation; (v) organization of training sessions on the margins of CBD and other relevant meetings.

Beyond this, and bearing in mind the aforementioned TEEB@Yale course, future collaboration with SCBD may also take the form of cooperation within academia to encourage longer term capacity building.

UNEP/GRID-Arendal, in collaboration with Duke University's Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions, and under the auspices of the UNEP TEEB Office and the UNEP Freshwater and Marine Ecosystems Branch, initiated a rapid effort to provide thoughts and insights about the benefits of a "TEEB for Oceans" study. The resulting Discussion Paper was presented on the occasion of The Economist/World Oceans Summit (Singapore, 22-24 February 2012) as well as the TEEB2012 Conference (Leipzig, 19-22 March 2012). The Discussion Paper looks specifically at the types of marine management

issues and policies that require better information on the economics of marine ecosystems and biodiversity. Following a workgroup at the ESP Conference (Portland, 31 July-4 August 2012), a full project proposal is currently underway to design and implement a TEEB for Oceans study.

The Ramsar Convention Secretariat is currently developing a "TEEB Water and Wetlands synthesis" (working title). The report will help identify major gaps and inconsistencies in current knowledge of the economics of water and wetlands, so as to inform agenda-setting for further work on the economics of water and wetlands. The findings of the report are expected to make a significant contribution inter alia to the planned State of the World's Wetlands and their Services to People (SoWWS) and Global Wetland Outlook (GWO) processes. A Briefing Note was produced for Ramsar COP11 (Bucharest, 6-13 July 2012) and a full report is projected to be launched at CBD COP-11. The core team of authors includes members of the Ramsar Secretariat and its Scientific & Technical Review Panel (STRP), IEEP, SCBD, UNEP-TEEB, UFZ and IUCN.

At its meeting in March 2012 in Leipzig, Germany, the TEEB Advisory Board also decided to establish a TEEB study and Working Group on agriculture. A chair has been identified while a study host and other institutional and academic partners are currently in the process of being sought and selected.

The development of current TEEB biome/sectoral work, and potential forthcoming requests for support, provides additional opportunities for collaboration with SCBD in the context of its Thematic Programmes, including but not limited to Marine and Coastal Biodiversity, Inland Waters Biodiversity and Agricultural Biodiversity.

Business was one of the "end users" identified in Phase II and led to the development of The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity in Business and Enterprise (ed. J. Bishop, 2012). Initial findings of the report were presented at the third CBD Business and the 2010 Biodiversity Challenge Conference (Jakarta, 30 November - 2 December 2009). The TEEB for Business Executive Summary was launched on the occasion of the First Global Business of Biodiversity Symposium (London, 13 July 2010), with the participation of SCBD.

More recently, UNEP TEEB Office also participated in a Chatham House event organized by SCBD involving IGOs, NGOs, academics and business to explore issues around valuation and the potential for markets and identify relevant points from the business perspective (London, 29 November 2011) as well as a UNEP-WCMC meeting on biodiversity standards, co-organized by SCBD (Cambridge, 30 November 2011).

Most of the specific TEEB follow-up work on business is being conducted by the TEEB for Business Coalition led by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW), together with HRH The Prince of Wales' Accounting for Sustainability Project, WBCSD, GRI, IUCN, WWF-UK, UNEP and others. The Coalition aims to "drive forward the TEEB for Business workstream by creating a common platform to catalyse research and action on corporate environmental externalities". The workplan includes conducting a mapping exercise of institutions active in this space; identifying the main business impacts; and developing relevant frameworks, including on disclosure. This work will directly contribute to the implementation of CBD decisions on business engagement.

Although outside of the scope of the TEEB project, UNEP/ETB alongside the IUCN and in collaboration with the SCBD, launched an initiative to explore options for International

Payments for Ecosystem Services (IPES). In September 2006, a working group on IPES was established jointly by UNEP, IUCN and SCBD where experts from international organizations, NGOs, academia and business gathered in order to identify gaps and opportunities for IPES schemes and discuss ways of moving forward. At this meeting, a joint plan of action was developed which centred on research, international consultation and application as well as the joint collaboration on the drafting of a publication. In January 2008, a second meeting was held to discuss and review a number of draft contributions toward this publication and arrange for the next phase of writing. In May 2008, the preliminary findings from the IPES book were disseminated and discussed at a side event at the CBD COP-8 in Bonn. The publication, which is to be published in 2013 investigates the need to scale up economic incentive mechanisms to the international level to enable improved conservation of biodiversity, identifies barriers and limitations to the establishment of such a system, and looks at proposed ways to overcome these barriers and limitations.

The general public/'Citizens and Consumers' were also identified as a key "end user" for TEEB in Phase II. This was initially realized through the www.teeb4me.com and www.bankofnaturalcapital.com websites. These websites, which contain content relevant and digestible for a non-technical audience, are supported by a strong online social media presence in both Facebook and Twitter and through an e-newsletter.

Phase III communication efforts will focus more on the development of a new, upgraded website that will contain information on the TEEB reports, as well as host other publications such as the TEEB sectoral publications, and TEEB Guides to the Aichi Targets. The upgraded website will also contain all the information on the ENRTP project progress and outcomes. TEEB communications will also continue to be present at highly visible events including CBD COPs.

Future cooperation may include: (i) development and work on outreach to schools; (ii) development of multimedia for the TEEB website including interviews and videos; (iii) synergies for disseminating TEEB related news and products, including the TEEB experts database; (iv) cooperation for future events and conferences including continued support in the provision of speakers and experts.

d. Sustainable production and consumption, including by business, in support of Aichi target 4 in particular, and the work of the Paris-based team in this regard,

In the context of Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) and based on the findings of the report "Are you a green leader?" as well as the ongoing activities within the TEEB for Business secretariat and Coalition, I would suggest the following potential areas of cooperation:

The TEEB for Business Coalition commissioned a research to identify the areas of greatest business impact on biodiversity and ecosystem services. These impacts will be quantified across over 20 different industrial sectors, including the entire supply chain. In order to address the needs of the companies along the supply chain, and more specifically small and medium sized enterprises, the Division on Trade, Industry and the Environment (DTIE) and SCBD could jointly complement existing guidelines and hands-on methodologies to build local capacities to assess and reduce the impact of businesses, especially small and medium enterprises, on biodiversity and ecosystem services. Such guidelines could be integrated by a compendium of available best practices in the targeted sectors, with specific focus on appropriate solutions for small and medium sized enterprises.

In the area of built environment, UNEP launched the Global Initiative for Resource Efficient Cities (GI-REC) with the aim of enhancing the quality of life in urban areas, particularly in rapidly growing cities in developing countries, while minimizing resource extraction, energy consumption and waste generation, and safeguarding ecosystem services. Providing support to cities for important dimensions of resource efficiency such as undertaking a systemic analysis of resource flows in cities and harmonizing metrics around resource efficiency in cities are some of the key activities that the Initiative will pursue. There is an opportunity for collaboration between UNEP and SCBD in the context of the GI-REC particularly in considering the value of ecosystem services to cities. One key activity of this Initiative will be to develop an approach for determining a city's "resource footprint" thus supporting cities in understanding, identifying, and managing their resource flows and potential efficiency gains. Furthermore, the impact of city consumption and production on urban ecosystems and fragile ecosystems in the city periphery is also an issue that the GI-REC will potentially look into.

- e. Biosafety, including assisting Parties to further develop and implement their national biosafety frameworks, taking into account the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety 2011-2020, and to ratify the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress.

In the context of the UNEP-GEF Project for Continued Enhancement of Building Capacity for Effective Participation in the Biosafety Clearing House (BCH-II) UNEP and SCBD are already collaborating in promoting education and training to biosafety professionals in collaboration with academic institutions and relevant organizations. The project also aims to ensure that the BCH is easily accessed by all established stakeholders, in particular in developing countries and countries with economies in transition and is also assisting the SCBD in developing and disseminating biosafety training materials and online modules using virtual learning technologies. I hope that this good example of collaboration between UNEP and SCBD would be able to continue through a possible extension of the project to all eligible Parties if additional funding is available from GEF or other sources.

In this area, UNEP-WCMC collaborates with the SCBD on strengthening biodiversity criteria in standards and certification schemes. Currently, this work involves a review of ecosystem services in standards and certification schemes, a set of recommendations for standard-setting bodies, and opportunities for best practice guidance on the development of biodiversity and ecosystem service criteria for business. I believe that there is a lot of potential for developing this collaboration further.

- f. Other additional topics.

In addition to those areas highlighted in the correspondence of 1 June 2012, it would be worthwhile to also address the following areas for enhanced collaboration and cooperation between UNEP and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity:

- Ongoing efforts towards the operationalization of IPBES, in which SCBD are closely involved, and which will lead to a strengthened scientific underpinning for the implementation of the strategic plan, and improved understanding of progress towards the Aichi targets.
- Work on protected areas, and in particular support to Parties to implement progress towards Aichi target 11 and to disseminate best practice for interventions to improve

- protected areas management effectiveness. The work on protected areas will continue to be closely coordinated with the CBD LifeWeb initiative, and the new LifeWeb leadership in the secretariat.
- Emerging work to reinforce connections between species and ecosystem conservation paradigms, and thereby support joint approaches to progress on many of the Aichi targets (including 5,6,9,10,11,14). This emerging work, in conjunction with SCBD, CMS, CITES and the UNEP-hosted Great Apes Survival Partnership, aims to strengthen dialogue and better communicate the links between species conservation and the ecosystem approach and ecosystem services-focused policies and practices. An initial side event will be held at CoP11.
- Emerging work on connectivity conservation, in support of targets 5,7,11,14 and 15, bringing together a partnership to support and promote connectivity conservation practices in terrestrial and marine ecosystems.
- Ongoing support to the EMG/IMG on biodiversity, enhancing the contribution of the UN system to the implementation of the strategic plan and achievement of the Aichi targets.
- Engaging with UNEP-WCMC, SCBD, and UNDP to provide technical support to the development of NBSAPS, building on the financial support provided by UNEP-GEF to 78 countries.
- Creating capacity in valuation, accounting of ecosystem services for mainstreaming of ecosystem services into development policies,
- Organizing capacity development programs on linking ecosystem services with macroeconomic policies
- Establishing an online center of excellence in terms of capacity exchange platform that harness Trilateral Development Cooperation and South-South partnership, and promotes skill-building on valuation of ecosystem services, best practices of incentive design for effective management of ecosystems.
- Further development of the InforMEA Initiative.
- The cooperation between UNEP-WCMC and the SCBD also involves further work areas, including on protected areas, biodiversity and development, national reporting, access to data and information, biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands, the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, and the Global Taxonomy Initiative and GBO-4. These initiatives should continue strengthening the collaboration between UNEP and SCBD.
- With regard to the more continuous monitoring and regular reporting of biodiversity trends and progress towards the Aichi Targets, UNEP-WCMC is in the process of developing a pilot indicator update report, structured according to the Aichi Targets, in time for CoP-11.

6. Support for the development of and implementation of national ABS framework in line with the Nagoya Protocol

UNEP is providing support to countries to access GEF financing from both the GEF Trust Fund and the Nagoya Protocol Implementation Fund (NPIF).

UNEP has developed guidance on Bio-cultural Community Protocols, or BCPs, ('A Community Approach to Ensuring the Integrity of Environmental Law and Policies', UNEP 2009) to guide development of local systems for access and benefit sharing of natural resources for local communities. A follow-up phase has recently been initiated specifically to address access and benefit sharing of coastal and marine resources through guidance on coastal BCP's.

In consultation with countries and the GEF Secretariat, UNEP has initiated discussions on development of a project on approaches for access and benefit sharing agreements around locally, privately or co-managed coral reef areas and resources.

7. Continue to promote synergies among conventions at the national level

The UNEP/GEF medium sized project for "Piloting Integrated Processes and Approaches to Facilitate National Reporting to the Rio Conventions - the FNR-Rio project" has had some interesting results from the 6 pilot countries, which was the object of discussions during Rio+20. There is a need now to take the matter to a higher level, by having each Convention highlight the matter of Joint Reporting in their own respective COPs so as to receive feedback from member States. UNEP would like to explore with SCBD, and eventually the UNCCD and UFCCC, a strategy to take this work forward.

UNEP is developing a project proposal in cooperation with the European Union on enhancing efficiency and effectiveness for the implementation of biodiversity-related Conventions. UNEP has also been granted approval by the UN Development Account for a project aimed at improving the coherent implementation of MEAs at the national level. Targeted clusters for this project, which will be implemented in five developing countries, are the biodiversity and chemicals/waste clusters. UNEP will closely collaborate with the CBD and other biodiversity-related conventions in the implementation of these initiatives.



**CONVENTION ON
BIOLOGICAL
DIVERSITY**



UNEP



WCMC

Supporting the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (Plan for the Biennium 2010-2012)

**Jointly agreed Programme of Work for UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre
assistance in implementing the decisions of the 10th meeting of the Conference of the
Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity**

Background

On 27 March 2006, in the margins of the 8th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD in Curitiba, Brazil, the Executive Secretary of the CBD and the Director of UNEP-WCMC signed an agreement on a framework for collaboration to support implementation of the CBD. In order to operationalize this agreement, following both COP 8 and COP 9, both parties jointly agreed on biannual programmes of work for UNEP-WCMC support to the implementation of those COP decisions of relevance to the mandate of UNEP-WCMC, and subsequently reported on the implementation of those programmes of work.

This new programme of work responds to the decisions taken at COP 10 in October 2010 in Nagoya, Japan. It builds on the existing collaboration between UNEP-WCMC and the CBD Secretariat and Parties in order to bring the technical and capacity building expertise within UNEP-WCMC to bear on the improved implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

UNEP-WCMC has been supporting the CBD – both the Parties and the Secretariats – for many years and has also been working extensively with other conventions such as CITES, CMS, Ramsar and UNCCD, including on developing synergies between conventions. An important aspect of UNEP-WCMC's assistance has been on building the capacity of Parties to implement the conventions. This is in line with the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building and the mandate for UNEP, provided by the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum at its 23rd session (decision 23/3), to implement the Bali Strategic Plan.

Aim

This document sets out a programme of work between COP 10 and COP 11 that identifies areas in which UNEP-WCMC, through its technical and capacity-building expertise, will endeavour to support the Secretariat and Parties in the implementation of the Convention and the decisions of COP 10. The focus of this programme of work is to support implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Targets.

Disclaimer

It should be noted that the activities listed in the work programme do not imply any commitment with regards to a transfer of funds between the CBD Secretariat and UNEP-WCMC or any formal agreement to grant work to UNEP-WCMC. Where funding is managed by the CBD Secretariat, all rules of procedure will be followed and the associated activities will be advertised openly for the submission of proposals by all interested partners.

54

Structure

This document consists of two sections, each with identified activities. Section I identifies work areas resulting from the decisions of COP 10 in which the role of UNEP-WCMC is explicitly recognised (including references to the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership facilitated by UNEP-WCMC) as well as priority issues for support to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Targets. Section II addresses other work areas resulting from COP 10 decisions.

Activities of UNEP-WCMC in support of the implementation of the Convention resulting from previous meetings of the Conference of the Parties will continue as needed, subject to communication between technical staff of the Secretariat and UNEP-WCMC.

Review

The state of implementation of this programme of work will be regularly reviewed by the CBD Secretariat and UNEP-WCMC on the basis of reports prepared by UNEP-WCMC, and reports delivered to COP, SBSTTA and the Working Group on Review of Implementation, as appropriate.

Contents

Background	1
Aim	1
Disclaimer	1
Structure	2
Review	2
Section I: Areas of work resulting from COP 10 decisions in which the role of UNEP-WCMC is explicitly recognized and priority issues of support to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Targets.....	3
Programme Area 1 – Biodiversity indicators	3
Programme Area 2 – Marine and coastal biodiversity (1).....	4
Programme Area 3 – Protected Areas	5
Programme Area 4 – Capacity development for National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans	6
Section II: Other key areas of work resulting from COP 10 decisions	7
Programme Area 5 – Biodiversity and climate change	7
Programme Area 6 – Marine and coastal biodiversity (2).....	7
Programme Area 7 – Conservation Commons	8
Programme Area 8 – National reporting	8
Programme Area 9 – Global Biodiversity Outlook	9
Programme Area 10 – Business and Biodiversity	9
Programme Area 11 – Global Taxonomy Initiative	10
Programme Area 12 – Biodiversity for development.....	10
Programme Area 13 – South-South cooperation	10
Programme Area 14 – Biodiversity and agriculture	11
Programme Area 15 – Global Strategy for Plant Conservation	11
Programme Area 16 – Biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands	11
Programme Area 17 – Cities and Biodiversity	12

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Section I: Areas of work resulting from COP 10 decisions in which the role of UNEP-WCMC is explicitly recognized and priority issues of support to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Targets

1. Biodiversity indicators
 2. Marine and coastal biodiversity (1)
 3. Protected areas
 4. Capacity development for NBSAPs
-

Programme Area 1 – Biodiversity indicators

Activity 1.1: Build on and continue the work of the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership in order to deliver global biodiversity indicators for the post-2010 period and support Parties in developing corresponding national indicators

COP decision X/7 on goals, targets and indicators for the post-2010 period, paragraph 2, recognizes the need to continue strengthening our ability to monitor biodiversity at all levels including through building on and continuing the work of the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership (BIP) in delivering global indicators for the post-2010 period. The same decision established an Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group, pending the availability of financial resources, which could be supported by UNEP-WCMC through background work, support for preparations and assistance with convening the meeting.

The Biodiversity Indicators Partnership, facilitated by UNEP-WCMC, will also provide assistance in the development or refinement of indicators in the following areas: mountain biodiversity (decision X/30 on mountain biodiversity, paragraph 4), protected areas (decision X/31 on protected areas, paragraphs 37 and 38), sustainable use of biodiversity (decision X/32 on sustainable use, paragraphs 2c and 4b), communication, education and public awareness (decision X/18 on communication, education and public awareness, paragraph 5), taxonomy (decision X/39 on the Global Taxonomy Initiative, paragraph 18), marine and coastal biodiversity (decision X/29 on marine and coastal biodiversity, paragraphs 16 and 17), business engagement (decision X/21 on business engagement, paragraph 2h), Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (decision X/17 on the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, paragraph 10a and Annex, paragraph 15), plan of action on cities and biodiversity (decision X/22 on the plan of action on subnational governments, cities and other local authorities for biodiversity, Annex, paragraph 5k), REDD and forest conservation and management (decision X/33 on biodiversity and climate change, paragraph 9h) and inland waters (decision X/28 on inland waters, paragraph 31).

This work will include global as well as regional and national indicators, as relevant. (Note also programme area 4 on National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans)

Activity 1.2: Assist the Executive Secretary in pursuing the ongoing refinement and use of the indicators for traditional knowledge referred to in decision X/43 through the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership

Note that it is understood that all activities will be carried out working in direct cooperation with the relevant programme staff of the CBD Secretariat

This activity responds to COP decision X/43 on the multi-year programme of work on Article 8(j), which in paragraph 17 requests the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with Parties, Governments, international agencies, the Working Group on Indicators of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity and interested parties, including the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership (BIP), to pursue the ongoing refinement and use of the proposed indicators on traditional knowledge. Paragraph 18 of the same decision, requests the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with Parties, Governments, international agencies including the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Working Group on Indicators of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity, relevant NGOs, and the BIP, to explore the development of appropriate indicators for customary sustainable use.

Activity 1.3: Assist the Executive Secretary in developing methodological guidance for indicators for monitoring the implementing of the Resource Mobilization Strategy

In decision X/3 on the Resource Mobilization Strategy, the COP adopted indicators for monitoring the implementation of the Strategy. In paragraph 8d, the COP requests the Executive Secretary to compile information from all sources including, but not limited to, the Biodiversity Indicator Partnership to give methodological guidance on these indicators.

Activity 1.4: Work with GEO-BON on an evaluation of existing observation capabilities relevant to the post-2010 biodiversity targets

COP decision X/7 on the goals, targets and indicators, in paragraph 6, requested the Executive Secretary to invite GEO-BON, working through organizations conducting biodiversity relevant observations, including, *inter alia*, UNEP-WCMC and IUCN, to prepare an evaluation of existing observation capabilities relevant to the targets contained in the Strategic Plan for the period 2011-2020 and provide a report in time for the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Indicators for the Strategic Plan for the period 2011-2020. UNEP-WCMC is collaborating with GEO-BON on this task.

Programme Area 2 – Marine and coastal biodiversity (1)

Activity 2.1: Assist the Executive Secretary in facilitating the availability and interoperability of the best available marine and coastal biodiversity data sets across global, regional and national scales

This activity responds to COP decision X/29 on marine and coastal biodiversity, paragraph 35, which requests the Executive Secretary to work with a range of organisations to facilitate availability and interoperability of the best available marine and coastal biodiversity data sets, across global, regional, and national scales. UNEP-WCMC works closely with partner organisations, including the Global Ocean Biodiversity Initiative (GOBI) on improved availability of marine and coastal biodiversity datasets.

Activity 2.2: Assist the Executive Secretary in the establishment of a repository for scientific and technical information and experience related to the application of the scientific criteria on the identification of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas (EBSAs)

Through decision X/29 on marine and coastal biodiversity, paragraph 39, the COP requested the Executive Secretary to establish a repository for scientific and technical information and experience related to the application of the scientific criteria on the identification of EBSAs in annex I of decision IX/20, as well as other relevant compatible and complementary nationally and intergovernmentally agreed scientific criteria that shares information and harmonizes with similar initiatives, and to develop an information-sharing mechanism with similar initiatives. The activity also responds to the indicative list of activities for operational objective 2.4 of programme element 2 on marine and coastal living resources as contained in the annex to decision X/29, number c). UNEP-WCMC has been closely involved in the development of the EBSAs and is working with other organisations in making them more widely available and applicable.

Activity 2.3: Assist the Executive Secretary in the development of a series of joint expert review processes to monitor and assess the impacts of ocean acidification on marine and coastal biodiversity

This activity responds to decision X/29 on marine and coastal biodiversity, paragraph 66, through which the COP requested the Executive Secretary to work with a range of organisations in the development of a series of joint expert review processes to monitor and assess the impacts of ocean acidification on marine and coastal biodiversity. Through paragraph 63 of this decision, the COP welcomed the compilation and synthesis of available scientific information on ocean acidification and its impacts on marine biodiversity and habitats (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/INF/8; also CBD Technical Series 46), which was prepared by UNEP-WCMC for the Executive Secretary.

Note that further aspects of work on marine and coastal biodiversity are covered under programme area 6.

Programme Area 3 – Protected Areas

Activity 3.1: Maintain and improve the World Database on Protected Areas in order to receive Parties' reports on their protected areas, including datasets on protected area management effectiveness; to prepare the United Nations List of Protected Areas; and to produce an annual *Protected Planet Report*

Through paragraph 35 of decision X/31 on protected areas, the COP encourages Parties to share and update relevant information on their protected area system with the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA), which includes the United Nations List of Protected Areas. The publication of the next UN List of Protected Areas is foreseen for 2012. The activity also responds to paragraph 19a of that decision, which invites Parties to continue to expand and institutionalize management effectiveness assessments to work towards assessing 60 per cent of the total area of protected areas by 2015. The paragraph makes explicit reference to the global database on management effectiveness maintained by UNEP-WCMC in collaboration with the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) through the WDPA. *Protected Planet*, the new face of the WDPA, will be translated into all UN and some other key languages. The *Protected Planet Report* will include protected area coverage statistics by regions, countries, biomes, ecoregions etc and a new Protected Planet Index that will provide information on protected area management and biodiversity conservation effectiveness.

Note that it is understood that all activities will be carried out working in direct cooperation with the relevant programme staff of the CBD Secretariat

Activity 3.2: Work with the Secretariat on integrating the new online reporting tool on protected areas with the World Database on Protected Areas

This responds directly to paragraph 36 of COP decision X/31 on protected areas, which requests the Executive Secretary to integrate the online reporting tool on protected areas, as established by the same decision, with the World Database on Protected Areas, in order to facilitate the reporting process and promote the joint use of both tools by the Parties.

Activity 3.3: Work with the Secretariat to enable voluntary reporting by Parties on indigenous and community-conserved areas to the registry of indigenous and community-conserved areas

Through decision X/31 on protected areas, the COP has invited Parties to recognize the role of indigenous and community-conserved areas (ICCAs) (paragraph 31b) and to consider voluntary in-depth reporting using standardized indexes and taxonomies including the proposed global registry of ICCAs (paragraph 33c). UNEP-WCMC manages the voluntary Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas Registry which aims to document the value of ICCAs and the role of indigenous peoples and local communities in biodiversity conservation. This is done in close collaboration with the ICCA Consortium.

Programme Area 4 – Capacity development for National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans

Activity 4.1: Assist Parties in developing or updating NBSAPs through support for the development and adoption of indicators

Activity 4.2: Assist Parties in developing or updating NBSAPs through making available biodiversity data and information

National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) are the key mechanism for Parties to implement the Convention. This is reflected in decision X/5 on the implementation of the Convention and in the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. UNEP-WCMC is in a good position to provide a range of support to build Parties' capacity for development or updating of NBSAPs, including the following: i) access to the best available information on standards for the development of indicators, particularly where global and national level indicator processes have successfully converged, to help them assess whether their targets have been met; ii) provision and repatriation of relevant spatial data and information in the areas of marine and terrestrial biodiversity, protected areas, and others; iii) access to global standards for, and case studies of success in, processes such as the setting of targets; and iv) capacity development in the effective use of science and assessment in decision making, and in particular the creation, management and communication of indicators, based on relevant regional examples, experience and training (note also programme area I on biodiversity indicators). This work will be undertaken at regional, subregional and national level, in cooperation not only with the CBD Secretariat, but also, where relevant, UNEP, UNDP and other agencies.

Section II: Other key areas of work resulting from COP 10 decisions

5. Biodiversity and climate change
 6. Marine and coastal biodiversity (2)
 7. Conservation Commons
 8. National reporting
 9. Global Biodiversity Outlook
 10. Business and biodiversity
 11. Global Taxonomy Initiative
 12. Biodiversity for Development
 13. South-South Cooperation
 14. Biodiversity and agriculture
 15. Global Strategy for Plant Conservation
 16. Biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands
 17. Cities and Biodiversity
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Programme Area 5 – Biodiversity and climate change

Activity 5.1: Share knowledge and data linking biodiversity conservation and sustainable use and climate change mitigation and adaptation

In responding to COP decision X/33 on biodiversity and climate change, UNEP-WCMC will, building on its work on REDD over the past two years, continue to provide data, information and tools to the Convention on links between biodiversity conservation and sustainable use and climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Programme Area 6 – Marine and coastal biodiversity (2)

Activity 6.1: Assist the Executive Secretary in the identification of elements for integrating the traditional, scientific, technical and technological knowledge of indigenous and local communities and social and cultural criteria and other aspects for the application of scientific criteria in annex I to decision IX/20 for the identification of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas (EBSAs) as well as the establishment and management of marine protected areas

This activity responds to decision X/29 on marine and coastal biodiversity, paragraph 47, through which the COP requested the Executive Secretary to undertake to identify specific elements for integrating the traditional, scientific, technical and technological knowledge of indigenous and local communities, consistent with Article 8(j) of the Convention, and social and cultural criteria and other aspects for the application of scientific criteria in annex I to decision IX/20 for the identification of ecologically or biologically significant areas as well as the establishment and management of marine protected areas.

Note that further aspects of work on marine and coastal biodiversity are covered under programme area 2.

Note that it is understood that all activities will be carried out working in direct cooperation with the relevant programme staff of the CBD Secretariat

Programme Area 7 – Conservation Commons

Activity 7.1: Assist the Executive Secretary in exploring ways to promote free and open access to data and information for conservation purposes

The COP, through decision X/7 on the goals, targets and indicators for the post-2010 period, paragraph 2f, recognised the need to continue strengthening our ability to monitor biodiversity at all levels, *inter alia* through identifying and addressing barriers that limit the availability of data, including through the work of the Conservation Commons. In paragraph 5c of decision X/15 on scientific and technical cooperation and the Clearing-House Mechanism, the COP requested the Executive Secretary, to explore, in collaboration with Parties, other Governments, relevant partners and members of the Conservation Commons, ways to promote free and open access to data and information for conservation purposes. As the host of the Secretariat of the Conservation Commons, UNEP-WCMC is in a good position to provide support to the Secretariat in this regard, working with the Conservation Commons partners.

Programme Area 8 – National reporting

Activity 8.1: Provide suggestions for improving national reporting, including on harmonization of national reporting and on improving the reporting capacities of least developed countries and small island developing states

The COP, through decision X/10 on national reporting, paragraph 12, encouraged Parties to increase synergies in national reporting under biodiversity-related conventions. In paragraph 13 of the same decision, the COP welcomed the FNR_Rio pilot project supported by the Global Environment Facility, and other relevant projects and initiatives, such as the project developed by the Australian Government in collaboration with the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, to facilitate integrated reporting processes and approaches in the least developed countries and small island developing States, which may provide important lessons for enhancing the reporting capacities of these countries. In paragraph 7 of decision X/33 on biodiversity and climate change, the COP suggested that Parties consider developing mechanisms to streamline reporting and data collection related to the biodiversity and climate change interface at the national and subnational level. In addition, in paragraph 8 of decision X/20 on cooperation with other conventions and international organisations and initiatives, the COP invited the Joint Liaison Group to continue giving consideration to the harmonization of national reporting and, in this context, welcomed the progress made in the FNR-Rio project, as well as the project to streamline reporting by Pacific island countries to the biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements. UNEP-WCMC has been involved in work on national reporting for many years, is executing the FNR_Rio project and has provided advice to the Australia/SPREP reporting project. (See also programme area 1 on biodiversity indicators)

Activity 8.2: Provide input on post-2010 biodiversity indicators to the regional workshops on the fifth national reports and to the resource manual for the fifth national reports

COP decision X/10 on the fifth national reports, in paragraph 7, decides that the fifth national reports should focus on the implementation of the updated Strategic Plan of the Convention for the period 2011-2020, and progress toward the 2020 targets, using

Note that it is understood that all activities will be carried out working in direct cooperation with the relevant programme staff of the CBD Secretariat

indicators where possible and feasible, including application of global headline indicators contained in decision VIII/15 and additional indicators that may be adopted at COP 11 for measuring progress towards the 2020 targets. In paragraph 15 of the same decision, the COP requests the Executive Secretary to prepare a resource manual for the fifth national reports.

Programme Area 9 – Global Biodiversity Outlook

Activity 9.1: Provide ongoing support to the Global Biodiversity Outlook publication, which is the main outreach and awareness raising tool for the monitoring and reporting on the status and trends on biodiversity.

The COP, through decision X/4 calls for additional work on the communication strategy for the third edition of Global Biodiversity Outlook, the promotion of the findings of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook through regional or sub-regional workshops, and the dissemination of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook in additional languages. The COP also calls for quantitative policy options, including assessments of the financial resources required to address the causes of biodiversity loss, to enhance the evaluation of the achievement of the post-2010 targets, drawing on the conclusions of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook and a review of the process of preparation and production of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook. Based on its contributions to the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, UNEP/WCMC will continue to contribute to follow-up activities and assessments.

Programme Area 10 – Business and Biodiversity

Activity 10.1: Assist the Executive Secretary through the provision of information for integrating biodiversity into business operations

Decision X/21 on business engagement outlines a range of activities by Parties, businesses and the private sector, and the Executive Secretary that aim at an improved integration of business and biodiversity. UNEP-WCMC has a wide experience of working with business and will make available information on some key issues, in particular options for incorporating biodiversity into business practices (decision X/21 paragraph 1c), monitoring and assessing impacts of business operations on biodiversity and ecosystem services (paragraph 2b), development of indicators for tracking implementation of business commitments (paragraphs 2h and 3b), and the development and application of tools and mechanisms to facilitate the engagement of business, such as certification, verification, the valuation of biodiversity and ecosystem services, incentive measures and biodiversity offsets (paragraph 3c). Relevant information from WCMC will be shared with CBD to help facilitate a dialogue among Parties and other Governments, business, and other stakeholders (paragraph 3 a). In particular, the Secretariat and UNEP-WCMC are engaged in projects that will help fulfil the objectives of paragraphs 3b-d which call for the compilation, analysis and monitoring of tools and mechanisms as well as encouraging their further development. This work will take the form of several co-hosted meetings by WCMC and SCBD which lead to co-authored reports analyzing the issues surrounding tools and mechanism and making recommendations for the next COP.

Programme Area 11 – Global Taxonomy Initiative

Activity 11.1: Assist Parties in building taxonomic capacity through taxonomic indicators and other means

In line with the programme of work for the Global Taxonomy Initiative, decision X/39 on the GTI stresses the importance of building taxonomic capacity in countries. UNEP-WCMC will provide support to these efforts through collaborative work with the Coordination Mechanism (CM) of the GTI and other partners such as GBIF on (a) taxonomic indicator(s) in the framework of the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership. UNEP-WCMC will also work with the Secretariat and the CM on other means to support taxonomic capacity building.

Programme Area 12 – Biodiversity for development

Activity 12.1: Support delivery of the biodiversity for development work of the Convention through input to the Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development

Decision X/6 on integration of biodiversity into poverty eradication and development established an Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development. UNEP-WCMC has worked with the Secretariat on the linkages between the objectives of the Convention and poverty eradication and development processes, including through a study on linking the thematic programmes of work of the Convention to poverty reduction and development. UNEP-WCMC will provide further assistance to the Expert Group and related processes.

Decision X/23 on the Multi-Year Plan of Action for South-South Cooperation on Biodiversity for Development invites support to the organization of regular meetings of the forum on South-South cooperation on biodiversity for development. UNEP-WCMC will provide assistance to this process.

UNEP-WCMC is committed to support the Nagoya Declaration on Biodiversity in Development Cooperation and will seek specific opportunities to collaboration with the CBD Secretariat and other partners to this end.

Programme Area 13 – South-South cooperation

Activity 13.1: Provide support to the CBD South-South Cooperation programme

Through decision X/23, the COP welcomed the Multi -Year Plan of Action for South-South Cooperation on Biodiversity for Development as adopted by the Group of 77 and China at the South-South Cooperation Forum on 17 October 2010. UNEP-WCMC is expected to support the resulting CBD South-South Cooperation programme of the Convention through supporting information exchange and knowledge management in the framework of the global biodiversity knowledge network of the programme, and supporting capacity-building for centres of excellence in developing countries.

Programme Area 14 – Biodiversity and agriculture

Activity 14.1: Assist the exploration of the positive and negative impacts of agriculture on biodiversity as well as options for strengthening the harmony between the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity and other programmes of work of the Convention

This responds to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 in relation to the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity, with several targets requiring the exploration of positive and negative impacts of agriculture on biodiversity (e.g. targets 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 15). It also responds to decision X/34, paragraph 14, which notes the interconnection between agricultural ecosystems and other ecosystems and invites Parties to consider the need for strengthened harmony between implementation of relevant elements of the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity and other programmes of work, in particular the other thematic programmes of work. UNEP-WCMC will assist Parties by the provision of information on these issues in collaboration with FAO.

Programme Area 15 – Global Strategy for Plant Conservation

Activity 15.1: Provide support to building capacity for the implementation of the Updated Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2011-2020

UNEP-WCMC, as a member of the Global Partnership on Plant Conservation, will further assist with capacity building for, and supporting, the implementation of the Updated Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, adopted through decision X/17, including with regard to the updating of technical rationales, milestones and indicators for the updated Strategy; development of the toolkit for the GSPC; contributions to regional capacity-building and training workshops as appropriate; and contributions to raising awareness about the contribution of the activities carried out as part of the implementation of the Strategy beyond 2010 in achieving the Millennium Development Goals, and contributing to human well-being and sustainable development).

Programme Area 16 – Biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands

Activity 16.1: Provide support to the implementation of the programme of work on biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands

Through decision X/35 on the biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands, the COP outlined further activities for implementing the programme of work on dry and sub-humid lands, in collaboration with, among others, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). UNEP-WCMC has been working extensively with the CBD, the UNCCD and the Environment Management Group (Issue Management Group on Land) on a range of relevant subjects as well as the UNCCD on indicators for the Ten-Year Strategic Plan of the UNCCD. UNEP-WCMC is therefore in a good position to provide support to the implementation of decision X/35, in particular the work on assessing options for common indicators between the CBD and UNCCD.

Programme Area 17 – Cities and Biodiversity

Activity 17.1: Support for the assessment of the links and opportunities between urbanization and biodiversity


UNEP-WCMC has been a participant in the Global Partnership on Cities and Biodiversity since 2006, given its expertise in consolidating geographically-referenced information relating to landscape-level land-use planning. Decision X/22, which adopted the Plan of Action for Sub-national Governments, Cities and other Local Authorities, also requests the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to prepare an assessment of the links and opportunities between urbanization and biodiversity for the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, based on the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook. On the background of the role of sub-national and local authorities in the application of the ecosystem approach of the CBD, UNEP-WCMC is expected to contribute to this assessment, and to participate in the dissemination of its results and recommendations.

Signed this 20th day of February 2012.

For and on Behalf of the Secretariat
of the Convention on Biological
Diversity


Bráulio Ferreira de Souza Dias
Executive Secretary

For and on Behalf of United Nations
Environment Programme World
Conservation Monitoring Centre


Jon Hutton
Director

