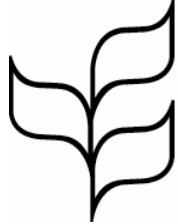




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REPORT ON OPTIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP ON SUSTAINABLE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Note by the Executive Secretary

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In line with decision X/32 (paragraph 4 (a)), the Executive Secretary submitted a revised version of the recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) at its fifteenth meeting. In recommendation XV/6, the Subsidiary Body welcomed the revised recommendations (as annexed to recommendation XV/6) as a potential complement to the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity related to sustainable wildlife management in tropical and sub-tropical countries.
2. In the same recommendation, the Subsidiary Body requested the Executive Secretary to “*explore options for the development of a collaborative partnership on sustainable wildlife management to enhance cooperation and coordination for implementation of the recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat, and to report to the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting.*”
3. In response to this request, the Executive Secretary issued notification 2012-009, soliciting expressions of interests from relevant organizations for participating in a collaborative partnership on sustainable wildlife management. In the notification, organizations were invited to respond at their earliest convenience and before the end of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties. Organizations were encouraged to include in their responses: their expectations for the partnership; a description of their key experiences in sustainable wildlife management at global, regional and national level; any suggestions for the organizational format of the partnership; and any indications of the resources they could contribute to the partnership.

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4. In response to this notification, expressions of interests were submitted by 15 organizations, ranging from academic institutions to international networks and governmental and intergovernmental agencies relevant to sustainable wildlife management.¹

5. The present note summarizes the expressions of interest received to date (section II) and outlines options for the development of a collaborative partnership on sustainable wildlife management (section III).

II. OPTIONS FOR THE PURPOSE AND SCOPE, STRUCTURE AND MEMBERSHIP OF THE PROPOSED COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP ON SUSTAINABLE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Purpose and scope

6. In their expressions of interest, relevant organizations agreed that the collaborative partnership on sustainable wildlife management would have a positive impact in terms of promoting a more comprehensive and in-depth approach to wildlife management. In particular, it was pointed out that the partnership would contribute to the establishment of a mechanism for consultation, exchange of information and interaction among stakeholders. It was noted that the partnership could be used as a valuable instrument to produce documentation and to create capacity-building in the field of wildlife management.

7. Several expressions of interest also indicated the usefulness of the convening function of the collaborative partnership on sustainable wildlife management, i.e. its potential to bring together a wide range of stakeholders, including but not limited to focal Points of the CBD and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), representatives of national and international agencies for nature reserves and law enforcement; representatives of judiciaries, non-governmental organizations, and scientific researchers.

8. As noted above, SBSTTA, in its recommendation XV/6, proposed as the purpose and scope of the collaborative partnership on sustainable wildlife management “*to enhance cooperation and coordination for implementation of the recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat.*”

9. In their expressions of interest, some organizations proposed that the collaborative partnership on sustainable wildlife management focus on the scope as suggested by SBSTTA, at least for the initial period.

10. The majority of organizations, however, suggested a broader scope, to promote not only the recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat but also relevant guidelines and programmes of other organizations, and to move to areas beyond the tropics and subtropics (which is the scope of the Liasison Group on Bushmeat). It was also suggested that the partnership should focus on terrestrial vertebrates but could possibly also include freshwater species.

11. A small number of organizations also suggested the scope to include marine mammals and fisheries.

¹ The submissions are being made available at www.cbd.int/sustainable/bushmeat/. At the time of writing expressions of interest were received by the following: Cairo University, Consortium Barcode of Life, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Humboldt Institute Colombia, International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), TRAFFIC – the wildlife trade monitoring network, Ligue Nationale des associations autochtones pygmées (LINAPYCO), Ministry of Environment Dominican Republic, Ministry of Tourism Uganda, Réseau des populations autochtones et locales d'Afrique Centrale (REPALEAC), United Nations Environment Programme - Great Apes Survival Partnership (UNEP GRASP), United Nations Environment Programme - World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society (WDCS), World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), Yokohama University.

12. Given the tenor of the expressions of interest, and taking into account the fact that largely different stakeholders and communities of interest are concerned with terrestrial/freshwater wildlife management as distinct from marine fisheries and marine mammal management issues, an appropriate purpose and scope of the collaborative partnership on sustainable wildlife management would be to promote relevant guidelines and programmes for the sustainable management of terrestrial vertebrate wildlife in all biomes and geographic areas, with an initial focus on the recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat.

Organizational structure

13. In their expressions of interest, a large number of organizations proposed the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) as a suitable model for the collaborative partnership on sustainable wildlife management.

14. The CPF is an informal, voluntary arrangement among 14 international organizations and convention secretariats that have substantial programmes on forests. CPF members share their experiences and build on them to produce new benefits for their respective constituencies. They collaborate to streamline and align their work and to find ways of improving forest management and conservation and the production and trade of forest products. The members are also forming increasingly close and valuable strategic partnerships with one another, benefiting from shared expertise and pooled resources.

15. The mission of the CPF is to promote sustainable management of all types of forests and to strengthen long-term political commitment to this end. Its objectives are to support the work of United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) and its member countries and to enhance cooperation and coordination on forest issues.

16. The CPF usually convenes to discuss strategic areas of coordination between CPF members and to work towards a better coherence between countries, in conjunction with major events; to keep travel costs low and make efficient use of staff time.

17. Membership in the CPF is limited but revised periodically. The CPF is co-chaired by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and a rotating co-chair. It is serviced by the UNFF Secretariat, with significant technical and administrative support provided also by FAO.

18. In addition to the CPF, the collaborative partnership on sustainable wildlife management could build on the experiences of existing partnerships in other fields, aiming to implement international instruments, such as the Great Apes Survival Partnership (GRASP), the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC), UN-Water, the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts and Islands, the World Bank Partnership on Combating Desertification, the Global Tiger Initiative (GTI), the Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA) Friends Consortium and the Global Partnership Initiative for Plant Breeding Capacity Building (GIPB). Most of these partnerships share characteristics with the CPF and each other, but vary in the extent of their membership.

19. In light of the expressions of interest, and taking into account the fact that a similar type informal and voluntary arrangement could be envisaged, it would seem to be appropriate that the organizational structure of the collaborative partnership on sustainable wildlife management could be loosely based on the CPF model with a chair or co-chairs. The chair (or co-chairs), or another organization, could provide administrative and technical support to the partnership.

Membership

20. To date, expressions of interest in the collaborative partnership on sustainable wildlife management were received from a wide range of organizations, including intergovernmental organizations, such as FAO and the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE); the International Union for Conservation of Nature (ICUN), which is a hybrid organization with governmental and non-

governmental members that has technical and expert networks; and non-governmental organizations and associations representing both use (e.g. hunting) and conservation interests. Other relevant organizations may include species-based conventions, such as CITES or the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), government agencies, and research bodies.

21. Given the wide range of interests in the collaborative partnership on sustainable wildlife management, it will be important to include in its membership all interests, with a leading role by intergovernmental organizations and other inclusive bodies such as IUCN, while at the same time keeping the number of members manageable.

III. PROPOSED WAY FORWARD

22. Organizations interested in participating in the collaborative partnership on sustainable wildlife management can still submit their expressions of interest to the Executive Secretary until the end of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

23. A group of interested organizations, including FAO, IUCN and the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC) is meeting at the margins of the IUCN World Conservation Congress, scheduled to be held in Jeju, Republic of Korea, from 6 to 15 September 2012, to discuss options for the collaborative partnership on sustainable wildlife management. The meeting is expected to develop a common message for the Conference of the Parties.

24. The Conference of the Parties may wish to consider the message from Jeju, and request the Executive Secretary to collaborate with the organizations concerned to establish the collaborative partnership on sustainable wildlife management as soon as possible, bearing in mind the considerations in the following paragraph.

25. The collaborative partnership on sustainable wildlife management should:

- (a) Be a voluntary arrangement, operating in a transparent and participatory manner;
- (b) Bring together organisations with diverse interests and expertise in international cooperation in sustainable wildlife management, including species-based conventions, intergovernmental organizations, government agencies, non-governmental organizations and research bodies;
- (c) Be focused on promoting relevant guidelines and programmes for sustainable wildlife management in general, with an initial focus on enhancing cooperation and coordination for implementation of the recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat;
- (d) Be focused on wildlife vertebrates in all biomes and geographic areas;
- (e) Have an organizational structure modelled loosely on the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF);
- (f) Be chaired, or co-chaired, by an intergovernmental organization or organizations;
- (g) Draw upon technical and administrative support provided by the (co-)chairing organization(s), or other organizations, as well as the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity.
