



Convention on Biological Diversity

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Item 12 of the provisional agenda*

ELEMENTS FOR TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE EXPERT GROUP ON BIODIVERSITY FOR POVERTY ERADICATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Note by the Executive Secretary

INTRODUCTION

1. In decision X/6, the Conference of the Parties recognized the urgent need to improve capacity for mainstreaming the three objectives of the Convention into poverty eradication strategies and plans and development processes as a means to enhance the implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and enhance their contribution to sustainable development and human well-being. It further decided to establish an Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development mandated to further elucidate the linkages between the three objectives of the Convention and poverty eradication, and to identify the most effective approach towards a framework on capacity-development for mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services for sustainable development and poverty eradication.
2. The Expert Group met in Dehradun, India, from 12 to 14 December 2011. Its report, which included the “Dehradun Recommendations”, was submitted for the consideration of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention at its fourth meeting (UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/4/5). The Dehradun Recommendations were revised based on submissions from Parties and the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) and have been submitted for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties (UNEP/CBD/COP/11/33/Rev.1).
3. The Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention envisaged that the Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development continue its work and move towards a road map for the integration of biodiversity into poverty eradication and development. Accordingly, paragraph 3 of the draft decision proposed in document UNEP/CBD/COP/11/33/Rev.1 provides for the extension of the mandate of the Expert Group to move

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towards a road map for the integration of biodiversity into poverty eradication and development in the context of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

4. To facilitate consideration of this issue by the Conference of the Parties, the Executive Secretary has prepared the following terms of reference.

ELEMENTS FOR TERMS OF REFERENCE

5. The Expert Group's work shall focus on decision X/6 and decisions from the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties dealing with biodiversity for poverty eradication and development, taking into account the ongoing process following the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20).

6. The Expert Group shall build upon the capacity development framework for mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services for sustainable development and poverty eradication generated at the first Expert Group meeting in Dehradun, India (UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/4/INF/11), the decision of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the Dehradun Recommendations, and the outcomes of Rio+20.

7. The Expert Group shall provide continuous input to the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention at all its future meetings during the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity 2011-2020 to enhance the implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its contribution to sustainable development and human well-being, in accordance with the following terms of reference.

8. The Expert Group shall provide guidance towards a conceptual framework, a costed plan of action and a road map for the integration of biodiversity into poverty eradication and development in the context of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

9. The Expert Group will:

(a) Provide guidance through the Secretariat of the Convention to Parties on how poverty eradication and development processes should be integrated into the national biodiversity strategy and action plans (NBSAPs), to ensure their successful implementation at a national, subnational, and local level to address poverty, strengthen livelihoods, human well-being and sustainable development;

(b) Make recommendations on how relevant biodiversity aspects, provision of ecosystem services, and utilization of genetic resources should be considered within poverty reduction strategies and national development planning;

(c) Provide guidance to Parties on how to integrate biodiversity policy with other policies (food security, water and energy security, climate change, natural capital, ecosystem degradation and restoration and socio-economic development, etc.) to scale up opportunities for growth, jobs and prosperity through development and job creation in the management and maintenance of ecological infrastructure;

(d) Proactively collaborate with ongoing efforts at the Secretariat of the Convention to integrate biodiversity and ecosystems goods and services concerns into the processes of developing the post-2015 Millennium Development Goals and Sustainable Development Goals, national development plans and national accounting systems;

(e) Proactively facilitate through the Secretariat of the Convention the collection and dissemination of best practices on integrating biodiversity into poverty eradication and development;

(f) Proactively contribute through the Secretariat of the Convention to the development, piloting and review of tools to help implement the guidance provided to stakeholders in development processes including the private sector and to monitor the implementation of the Dehradun recommendations;

(g) Contribute as peer-reviewers to the Executive Secretary's ongoing processes to develop and monitor relevant indexes or indicators, such as the Poverty-Biodiversity Indicators;

(h) Provide guidance on integration of biodiversity for poverty eradication and development for ongoing capacity-building networks and regional centres of excellence on development planning, poverty eradication strategies, biodiversity and ecosystem services, triangular cooperation initiatives, and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) revisions or other relevant processes;

(i) Assess the barriers to the implementation of the decisions of the Convention related to poverty eradication and sustainable development and identify proposals and solutions to overcome those barriers, including the system of governance of natural renewable resources and ecosystem services.

10. The composition and organization of the work of the Expert Group will follow the terms of reference annexed to decision X/6.
