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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Eleventh meeting

Hyderabad, India, 8–19 October 2012

Item 13 of the provisional agenda*

BIODIVERSITY FOR POVERTY ERADICATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

Note by the Executive Secretary

I 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 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 toward 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 Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention at its fourth meeting (UNEP/CBD/WGRI/4/5).
3. At this meeting, the Working Group welcomed the information contained in the proceedings of the Meeting of the Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development, including the analysis of the root causes of, and inter-linkages between biodiversity loss and poverty.¹
4. The Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention at its fourth meeting also requested the Executive Secretary to invite Parties to express their views on the “Dehradun Recommendations” while taking into consideration the discussions in the Working Group and the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development Rio + 20. The Executive Secretary was requested to submit a synthesis of the said comments for consideration by the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

* UNEP/CBD/COP/11/1.

** The Executive Secretary has produced this revision to the original note to incorporate further suggestions and changes to the Dehradun Recommendations received from Parties after the 6 July 2012 deadline for submissions indicated in notification SCBD/ITS/RS/DB/nm/79883.

¹ <http://www.cbd.int/recommendation/wgri/?id=13068#wgri-04-rec-04-fn01>.

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5. In light of the above, the Conference of the Parties is invited to consider the revised Dehradun recommendations annexed to this document. The revisions are based on submissions received from Parties, both during and after the fourth meeting of the Working Group on the Review of Implementation taking into account the outcomes of Rio+ 20. All submissions have been compiled and are available for consultation in document UNEP/CBD/COP/11/INF/4.

6. The Executive Secretary has produced, in consultation with the Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development an information document containing suggested terms of references to continue its work in the context of the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the 20 Aichi Targets. The Executive Secretary has also produced a draft report towards the development of poverty-biodiversity indicators as an information document.

II RECOMMENDATION

7. The Working Group recommended that the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Calls upon* Parties and encourages all partners and stakeholders involved in biodiversity and development processes and programmes to take into account the executive summary of *The Root Causes of, and Inter-linkages between, Biodiversity Loss and Poverty* ([UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/4/5](#), annex II) and *The Proceedings from the Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development and the Expert Group Analysis of the Root Causes of, and Interlinkages between, Biodiversity Loss and Poverty* ([UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/4/INF/11](#)) in their related plans, policies and actions and in implementation of related programmes;²

2. [*Endorses*] [*Takes note of*] the “Dehradun Recommendations” taking into account the submissions by Parties, discussions at the fourth meeting of the Working Group on Review of Implementation and the Rio+20 outcomes;

3. *Decides* that the Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development continues its work and submits a report before the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, subject to the availability of funding, to move 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. *Encourages* all partners and stakeholders involved in biodiversity-related programmes to consider different perspectives and priorities in all biodiversity and ecosystem services valuation processes;

5. *Encourages* all partners and stakeholders involved in biodiversity-related programmes in the context of poverty eradication and development to protect and encourage customary use of biological resources in accordance with traditional cultural practices that are compatible with conservation or sustainable use requirements;

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to transmit a report on the progress of the Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development for consideration at the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

7. *Invites* Parties, the United Nations Development Programme and other relevant organizations to make available through the clearing-house mechanism, as appropriate, best practices on integrating biodiversity into poverty eradication and development.

Annex

DEHRADUN RECOMMENDATIONS

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling decision X/6 on “Integration of biodiversity into poverty eradication and development” from the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, 18-29 October 2010,

Recalling the eight Millennium Development Goals adopted in 2000 at the Millennium Summit,² the objectives and Articles of the Convention, the twenty Aichi Biodiversity Targets of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020³ adopted at the tenth meeting of the conference of the Parties, and the United Nations Decade of Biodiversity,

Recognizing the potential of all three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, (particularly Articles 8(j), 10(c), 15, paragraph 7, Article 8(e) and 8(i), all of Articles 10 and 11, Article 13(a)), as well as the Aichi Biodiversity Targets in significantly contributing to specific dimensions of poverty such as lack of income, lack of participation in decision-making, lack of access to education and lack of access to capacity-building initiatives,

Recognizing the clear linkages between gender equity, poverty alleviation and the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity,

Recognizing the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) and the work advancing the process of Sustainable Development Goals by the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) as input for the post-2015 Goals,

Recognizing, in the context of the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio + 20), the role of access and benefit-sharing arising from the utilization of genetic resources to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, poverty eradication and environmental sustainability,⁴

Recognizing the importance of an enabling environment⁵ within the context of sustainable development, there is a need, within the context of education and awareness, to promote sound income distribution in fiscal policies and other relevant programmes as well as wider efforts to improve basic secondary, and higher education coverage and quality,

Recognizing the urgent need to improve knowledge, through monitoring and indicator development, the value⁶ of biodiversity and ecosystem services, particularly in the context of poverty and development processes,

Recognizing, as the Rio + 20 outcomes, the importance of well managed ecosystems⁷ and restoration of degraded ecosystems for sustainable development to address poverty eradication,

² <http://www.un.org/millennium/>

³ <http://www.cbd.int/sp/>

⁴ “The future we want”, outcome document from Rio + 20 § 199.

⁵ Enabling environment is the expression that encompasses government policies that focus on creating and maintaining an overall macroeconomic environment that brings together suppliers and consumers in an inter-firm co-operation manner (UNCTAD, 1998a. TD/B/COM.2/33)

⁶ The intrinsic value of biological diversity, as well as the ecological, genetic, social, economic, scientific, educational, cultural, recreational and aesthetic values of biological diversity and its critical role in maintaining ecosystems that provide essential services, which are critical foundations for sustainable development and human well-being (“The future we want”, outcome document from Rio + 20 §197).

⁷ In particular: agricultural and water systems, oceans and seas, forests, arid, semi-arid and dry lands, mountains.

Recognizing the need for increased capacity for mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services into poverty eradication and development processes at all levels and for all actors,

Recognizing that the poor are legitimate users of biodiversity and other environmental services, that their use of environment is generally less impacting and has lower intensity than the one made by middle income classes and the rich and that the poor are more vulnerable to environmental degradation,

Recognizing the root causes of, and interlinkages between, biodiversity loss and poverty, and the advantages of integrating biodiversity into poverty eradication and development and vice versa as identified by the Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development,

Aware of the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation from the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness,⁸

Welcoming, “the integrated framework for linking wetland conservation and wise use with poverty eradication” endorsed by the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and *noting* potential contributions of utilizing the framework in assisting linkages between biodiversity and poverty eradication, particularly with regards to sustainable use of biodiversity in inland water ecosystems and coastal and marine ecosystems,

Taking into account results from the Expert Group Meeting on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development, the views of the fourth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention, and the submissions received from Parties after the fourth meeting of the Working Group,

1. *Encourages* international organizations, including Multilateral Development Banks, Development Cooperation Agencies, and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), to integrate biodiversity and ecosystem services into poverty eradication and development processes, including within development cooperation strategies, including United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs) and multilateral and bilateral country assistance strategies;

2. *Encourages* Parties and international agencies and organizations, including Multilateral Development Banks, Development Cooperation Agencies, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), to use multi-stakeholder forums and platforms, and strategic environment assessments to promote:

(a) Sustainable biotrade⁹, which shall not be used as a tool to endorse non-tariff barriers, but rather to provide opportunities for poverty reduction including up-scaling the existing Capacity-Building for Biotrade programme [and payment for ecosystem services (PES)]; and

(b) Integration of biodiversity, ecosystem services and poverty eradication considerations into sustainable product supply chains and value addition processes.

3. *Encourages* Parties to monitor progress in valuation of biodiversity and ecosystem services as well as its integration into poverty eradication and development processes by using the biodiversity indicators established by the processes under the Convention on Biological Diversity, as well as the indicators used in the Millennium Development Goals, the Rio Markers, or any other relevant indexes;

4. *Requests* Parties and international agencies and organizations to carefully assess potential opportunities and risks of placing an economic value to biodiversity and ecosystem services, specifically to:

⁸ Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, Busan, Republic of Korea, 29 November-1 December 2011.

⁹ The term BioTrade refers to those activities of collection/production, transformation, and commercialisation of goods and services derived from native biodiversity (species and ecosystems), under criteria of environmental, social and economic sustainability (<http://www.biotrade.org/aboutGLOSS.asp>).

(a) Use the opportunities offered by the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing, payments for ecosystem services schemes, and other biodiversity-related market based mechanisms to address poverty and strengthen livelihoods;

(b) Assess the risks and externalities, as well as to design measures to avoid and mitigate adverse pressures of development, such as the distributional implications of market based mechanisms, on biodiversity and ecosystem services;

5. *Requests* Parties, international agencies and organizations to take into account the contributions of biodiversity and ecosystem services to human wellbeing, while developing policies, spatial planning and appropriate investment programmes, including on issues related to peri-urban areas and the conversion of land use for urban spread;

6. *Requests* Parties to adapt and integrate existing poverty and development priorities and indicators into their revised national biodiversity strategies and action plans, as well into local and regional biodiversity plans and strategies;

7. *Requests* Parties and international agencies and organizations, and private sector to promote an enabling environment for the valuation of both economic and non-economic aspects of biodiversity and ecosystem services for poverty eradication and development processes:

(a) Encouraging the participation of all relevant stakeholders in a transparent and accountable process of designing and implementing of market based mechanisms for biodiversity and ecosystem services to address poverty reduction and development objectives;

(b) Establishing appropriate systems to encourage the responsible and sustainable use of biodiversity by the private sector that has a direct bearing on poverty reduction, *inter alia*: incentives and disincentives, compliance and enforcement mechanisms and capacity development of stakeholders; and

(c) Encouraging multilateral and regional development banks to include biodiversity and ecosystem services in their operational and lending practices.

8. *Calls upon* Parties and international agencies and organizations to identify and promote conservation and/or development policies, activities, projects and mechanisms which empower women, indigenous and local communities and the poor, marginalized and vulnerable, who depend directly on biodiversity and ecosystem services for their livelihoods;

9. *Calls upon* Parties and international agencies and organizations, to develop or strengthen the capacity of individuals and organizations as well as to create an enabling environment particularly in least developed countries small island developing States (SIDS) and countries with economies in transition to effectively value biodiversity and ecosystem services as well as their integration into poverty eradication and development processes by:

(a) Highlighting and developing the necessary economic, negotiating, management and accounting skills of all relevant actors (planning, budgeting, environmental economics, and other related sectors) and involving them in the designing, implementation and monitoring of capacity development programmes for valuation of biodiversity and ecosystem services for integration into poverty eradication and development processes;

(b) Promoting cross-country learning groups, South-South cooperation networks, and the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity for capacity development at all levels to facilitate technology transfers, access to knowledge, and information exchanges; and

(c) Encouraging all relevant partners including United Nations agencies, bilateral development cooperation agencies and multilateral development banks to promote and effectively implement capacity development programmes at local, national and regional levels;

10. *Invites* Parties to take into account the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to ensure the full and effective participation of the most marginal populations, indigenous and local communities, while developing and implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs);

11. *Invites* Parties, international agencies and organizations, building on the lessons learnt and acquired experience of existing environmental mainstreaming experiences, subject to their own situations, current legislations and policies, to consider, as appropriate, to integrate biodiversity and ecosystem services into poverty eradication and development processes and projects at all levels, *inter alia*, by:

(a) Integrating poverty and development concerns into national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) other appropriate plans, policies and programmes, notably in National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPA);

(b) Integrating biodiversity and ecosystem services into national accounting systems (to complement Gross Domestic Product index), national and sectoral development plans, and their implementation (e.g., through programme and project level impact assessments);

(c) Assuring implementation of relevant technical cooperation through engagement with the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) revision process within the timeframe of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (2011-2020);

(d) Promoting transparent, accountable and inclusive intersectoral collaboration and information sharing between government agencies and other stakeholders by clearly defining stakeholders rights and limits, notably indigenous and local communities rights in particular their right to free prior and informed consent, to access and control of biodiversity and ecosystem services;

(e) Avoiding as much possible negatively affecting poor and vulnerable people through ecosystem and biodiversity conservation and where this is not possible, provide fair and equitable compensation for poor and vulnerable people affected - including compensation for limited development opportunities, lack of access and loss of life, property and crops from wildlife damage;

(f) Ensuring the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of associated traditional knowledge of indigenous and local communities.

12. *Invites* Parties and international agencies and organizations to assess the economic and non-economic value of biodiversity and ecosystem services for poverty eradication and development while taking into account the work of The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB), the Wealth Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services (WAVES), and the outcomes of the Quito Seminar on Scaling up Biodiversity Finance¹⁰ and, subject to their own situations, current legislations and policies, to consider, as appropriate, to integrate that value into national accounting systems and economic decision-making;

13. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility and other funding agencies to provide financial support to regional or subregional initiatives for learning and capacity development frameworks on biodiversity, poverty and development and mainstreaming;

14. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to:

(a) Ensure effective mainstreaming of poverty eradication and development concerns into all of the Convention's programmes of work, including communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) taking into account among others the results from the assessment conducted by the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC)¹¹ on behalf of the Convention's Biodiversity for Development Initiative;

(b) Collaborate, taking into account the outcomes of Rio+20, in the process of development of Sustainable Development Goals, as appropriate, with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), the secretariats of the two other Rio conventions and MEA's, and with the international organizations and specialized agencies involved in poverty eradication, human health, food security and gender issues.¹²

¹⁰ <http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/fin/ds-fb-01/information/ds-fb-01-background-en.doc>

¹¹ www.cbd.int/development/doc/cbd-pow-poverty-en.pdf

¹² As UNDP, FAO, WHO, UN Women, etc.

(c) Ensure that the work of the Convention on Biological Diversity on the relationship between poverty and biodiversity is integrated with the work of other international fora, particularly with the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+ 20), to the extent possible, to avoid overlap and duplication;

(d) Ensure that the issue of biodiversity for poverty eradication and development is regarded as a cross-cutting theme in all relevant programmes of work under the Convention, is integrated in the national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs), and is linked to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, resource mobilization, Global environment Facility and South-South cooperation;

(e) Incorporate reporting on mainstreaming biodiversity for poverty eradication and development in the national reports submitted to the Convention on Biological Diversity using the appropriate indicators;

(f) Collaborate with UNDP, UNEP (including UNEP-WCMC), the Poverty Environment Initiative (PEI), International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) and other relevant organizations, to ensure that appropriate capacity development packages for mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services into poverty eradication and development processes are developed and implemented; and

(g) Explore with UNDP, UNEP, PEI, IIED, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and other relevant agencies and organizations, to promote development of toolkits and guidance material designed for national and local governments, as well as international partners, for integrating poverty eradication and development concerns into local, regional and national biodiversity strategies and action plans and facilitate that all Government agencies and sectors are involved in its preparation and implementation.
