

# CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE  
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Thirteenth meeting

Cancun, Mexico, 4-17 December 2016

**WORKING GROUP II**

Agenda item 17

## CLIMATE-RELATED GEOENGINEERING

### Draft decision submitted by the Chair of Working Group II

*The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Reaffirms* paragraph 8, in particular its subparagraph (w), of decision X/33, and decision XI/20;
  2. *Recalls* paragraph 11 of decision XI/20, in which the Conference of the Parties noted that the application of the precautionary approach as well as customary international law, including the general obligations of States with regard to activities within their jurisdiction or control and with regard to possible consequences of those activities, and requirements with regard to environmental impact assessment, may be relevant for geoengineering activities but would still form an incomplete basis for global regulation;
  3. *Recalling* paragraph 4 of decision XI/20, in which the Conference of the Parties emphasized that climate change should primarily be addressed by reducing anthropogenic emissions by sources and by increasing removals by sinks of greenhouse gases under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, noting also the relevance of the Convention on Biological Diversity and other instruments, and *also recalling* paragraphs 8 (j)-(t) of decision X/33, and paragraph 5 of decision XII/20, *reaffirms* its encouragement to Parties to promote the use of ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation and mitigation;
  4. *Notes* that very few Parties responded to the invitation to provide information on measures they have undertaken in accordance with decision X/33, paragraph 8(w), and further invites other Parties, where relevant, to provide such information;
  5. *Also notes* that more transdisciplinary research and sharing of knowledge among appropriate institutions is needed in order to better understand the impacts of climate-related geoengineering on biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, socio-economic, cultural and ethical issues and regulatory options;
  6. *Recognizes* the importance of taking into account sciences for life and the knowledge, experience and perspectives of indigenous peoples and local communities when addressing climate-related geoengineering and protecting biodiversity.
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