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Agenda item 3

AICHI TARGETS: FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS FOR THE ARAB REGION

Note by the Executive Secretary

1. In October 2010, the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties adopted the Strategic Plan of the Convention for the period 2011-2020. The mission of the Strategic Plan is to take effective and urgent action to halt the loss of biodiversity in order to ensure that by 2020 ecosystems are resilient and continue to provide essential services, thereby securing the planet's variety of life, and contributing to human well-being, and poverty eradication.
2. The Strategic Plan includes 20 headline targets for 2020, organized under five strategic goals. The goals and targets comprise both: (i) aspirations for achievement at the global level; and (ii) a flexible framework for the establishment of national or regional targets. Parties are invited to set their own targets within this flexible framework, taking into account national needs and priorities, while also bearing in mind national contributions to the achievement of the global targets. Not all countries necessarily need to develop a national target for each and every global target. For some countries, the global threshold set through certain targets may already have been achieved. Others targets may not be relevant in the country context.
3. The tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties further urged Parties and other Governments, with the support of intergovernmental and other organizations, as appropriate, to implement the Strategic Plan and in particular to develop national and regional targets, using the Strategic Plan as a flexible framework, in accordance with national priorities and capacities and taking into account both the global targets and the status and trends of biological diversity in the country, and the resources provided through the resource mobilization strategy, with a view to contributing to collective global efforts to reach the global targets, and report thereon to the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting. Parties are expected to review, and as appropriate update and revise, their national biodiversity strategies and action plans, in line with the Strategic Plan, including by integrating their national targets into their national biodiversity strategies and action plans, adopted as a policy instrument. The Global Environment Facility has been requested to provide adequate, timely and predictable financial support to enable the implementation of the new Strategic Plan.

4. This brief note provides a briefing on the Aichi Target. Participants of the Workshop are invited to:

- Consider relevance of the 20 headline targets in the Arab region;
- Elaborate national or regional targets in light of the Aichi Target;
- Update national biodiversity strategy and action plans in light of the 2011-2020 Strategic Plan as well as the strategy for resource mobilization of the Convention;
- Identify national or regional funding priorities for the period 2011-2020;
- Estimate national or regional funding needs for the period 2011-2020.

A. Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society

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

5. This target is related to Article 13 of the Convention and relevant decisions on communication, education and public awareness (CEPA). Examples of activities include: implementation of CEPA programmes; active engagement of citizens; development of citizen action lists; principles and messages of education for sustainable development. Parties could consider carrying out national baseline surveys and preparing and adopting comprehensive national strategies to promote awareness of the value of biodiversity, for instance by 2014.

Target 2: By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems

6. This target is related to Articles 6(b) and 11 of the Convention as well as relevant decisions on economics, trade and incentive measures and biodiversity for development. Examples of activities are: to value biodiversity and ecosystem services; apply environmental accounting; mainstream biodiversity in poverty reduction and development strategies and development cooperation; develop and apply payment for ecosystem services. Parties may first work on bio-physical inventories of biodiversity and ecosystem services, for instance by 2012, and then develop a work programme for reflecting biodiversity and ecosystem values in national accounts, for instance by 2014.

Target 3: By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socio-economic conditions.

7. This target is related to Article 11 of the Convention as well as relevant decisions on economics, trade and incentive measures as well as impact assessment. Examples of activities include: application of CBD guidance on SEA and incentive measures; application of relevant OECD guidance; implementation of national or regional measures to remove perverse incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity; completion of WTO negotiations on fishery subsidies and agricultural domestic support.

Target 4: By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts

of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits

8. This target is related to Article 10 of the Convention as well as relevant decisions on Business and Biodiversity Initiative, sustainable use of biodiversity, and impact assessment. Examples of activities include: inter-ministerial committees; nationally-developed guidelines; development of sector guidelines; ecosystem management in city districts; development of production and consumption-related sector plans; promotion of dialogue among sectors and stakeholders; SEA and economic tools. Governments and major private sector actors, at sector or company level, can develop, for instance by 2014, assessments of their ecological footprint, and sustainability plans, and can demonstrate, for instance by 2018, progress towards sustainability.

B. Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use

Target 5: By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.

9. This target is related to relevant decisions on forest biodiversity, marine and coastal biodiversity, inland water biodiversity, dry and sub-humid lands biodiversity, sustainable use. Examples of activities include: spatial planning; enforcement of existing laws & regulations; implementation of REDD; improvements in production efficiency; recognition of the value of ecosystem services; prevention of loss of primary forests and other high-value habitats. Parties may review and update national legislation and land-use plans or zonation maps in relation to national targets, and make spatial planning tools available for wide use, for instance by 2014.

Target 6: By 2020 all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.

10. This target is related to relevant decisions on sustainable use of biodiversity, marine and coastal biodiversity, and inland waters biodiversity. Examples of activities include: reduction of fishing intensity and areas through collaborative partnerships with local communities and fishery organizations; Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries; 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development; development of regional mechanisms to manage shared fisheries. Parties may take steps to address, for instance by 2012, the management of fishing capacity for international fisheries requiring urgent attention, eliminate destructive fishing practices, and halve, for instance by 2015, pressure on marine ecosystems from fishing, globally.

Target 7: By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity

11. This target is related to relevant decisions on sustainable use of biodiversity (Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines), business and biodiversity initiative, agricultural biodiversity, forest biodiversity, inland water biodiversity, marine and coastal biodiversity, and dry and sub-humid lands biodiversity. Examples of activities are to: apply the ecosystem approach; implement sustainable forest, agriculture and aquaculture management; apply law and governance mechanisms; apply good agricultural practices; reduce pesticide use and apply integrated pest management; promote certification and labelling; implement *Satoyama* and similar initiatives. Parties may identify or develop and promote, for instance by 2012, sustainability criteria and/or good practices for agriculture, aquaculture and forestry, and double, for instance by 2015, the area of agriculture, aquaculture and forestry managed according to sustainability criteria.

Target 8: By 2020, pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity

12. This target is related to relevant decisions on inland water biodiversity, marine and coastal biodiversity, impact assessment, International Initiative on Soil Biodiversity. Examples of activities are such as to: promote appropriate and efficient fertilizer use and disposal of wastes from livestock (good agricultural practices); improve sewage treatment; wise use of wetlands; better control of point sources of pollution; develop national water quality guidelines. Parties may develop, for instance by 2014, national assessments of the impact of nutrient loading and other pollution on ecosystems and develop strategies and policies to reduce it, so that most ecosystems show declining nutrient loads and levels of other pollutants, for instance by 2015.

Target 9: By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment

13. This target is related to relevant decisions on invasive alien species. Examples of activities are such as to: increase effectiveness of border controls and quarantine measures; address pet trade; control spread of invasive species; study and monitor emerging wildlife infectious diseases; better coordination with national and regional plant and animal health bodies; WTO-SPS Standards and Trade Development Facility. Parties may, for instance by 2014, identify potential pathways for invasive alien species using a risk assessment framework, develop lists of the most harmful invasive species, and develop action plans and review relevant legislation. Parties should take actions, for instance by 2016, to address the most important introduction pathways and the most serious invasions.

Target 10: By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning

14. This target is related to relevant decisions on climate change and biodiversity, marine and coastal biodiversity, International Initiative on Food and Nutrition. Examples of activities are such as those to: reduce CO₂ and other GHG emissions; optimize ecosystem management to remove CO₂; conduct vulnerability assessments; reduce non-climate related pressures; marine protected areas. Parties may assess, for instance by 2012, the integrity of coral reefs and other vulnerable ecosystems and the pressures on them and develop a strategy to minimize these.

C. Improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity

Target 11: By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscape and seascapes.

15. This target is related to relevant decisions on protected areas, dry and sub-humid lands biodiversity, inland waters biodiversity, island biodiversity, marine and coastal biodiversity, mountain biodiversity and Global Strategy for Plant Conservation. Examples of activities include: protection of critical areas identified in line with CBD annex I (high biodiversity areas and areas providing critical services); cooperation with indigenous and local communities; effective and sustainable management of protected areas; integration of protected areas into the wider land- and seascape; application of the ecosystem approach taking into account connectivity; limiting processes/activities harmful to biodiversity. Parties may, in the marine area, establish, for instance by 2012, a global network of comprehensive, representative and effectively managed national and regional protected area system, have

effective management in existence for all protected areas, and integrate, for instance by 2015, all protected areas and protected area systems into the wider land- and seascape, and relevant sectors.

Target 12: By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained

16. This target is related to relevant decisions on Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, Global Taxonomy Initiative, programme of work on protected areas. Examples of activities include: identification and protection of priority areas; implementation of species recovery and conservation programmes; *ex situ* conservation measures; re-introduction of species to habitats from which they have been extirpated; identification and protection of areas important for at risk species. Parties may review, for instance by 2012, information on threatened species and take conservation measures to prevent imminent extinctions, conduct, for instance by 2014, preliminary national Red List assessments, and have in place, for instance by 2016, a strategy for the prevention of extinctions of all nationally threatened species.

Target 13: By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity.

17. This target is related to relevant decisions on agricultural biodiversity, Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, International Initiative on Food and Nutrition. Examples of activities are such as those to: maintain crop and livestock varieties on farm; establish protected areas for wild relatives; continue to establish and develop genebanks. Parties may include, for instance by 2014, *in situ* conservation of crop and livestock genetic diversity in national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

D. Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services

Target 14: By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.

18. This target is related to relevant decisions on biodiversity for development and poverty reduction. Examples of activities are such as those to: develop ecological networks, corridors linking protected areas, riparian strips, flyways for migratory birds, etc.; apply integrated river basin management integrated coastal zone management; implement the Satoyama initiative and similar initiatives; identify biodiversity and ecosystem services of particular value to the poor and vulnerable. Parties may compile and review, for instance by 2012, information on the services provided by ecosystems and the benefits received by local and indigenous communities, and develop, for instance by 2014, national strategies or policies for enhanced provision of and access to essential ecosystem services as a contribution to poverty reduction and sustainable development strategies.

Target 15: By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.

19. This target is related to relevant decisions on climate change and biodiversity, forest biodiversity, and inland waters biodiversity. Examples of activities are such as those to: implement mechanisms related to REDD; protect peatlands and other key wetlands; improve soil management; up-scale landscape restoration efforts; incentive schemes under discussion in the context of the climate change negotiations, and additional schemes for other terrestrial, freshwater and coastal ecosystems. Parties may, for instance

by 2014, compile and review information on the potential contribution of all ecosystems to carbon storage and sequestration and prepare a national strategy for the enhancement of the contribution of biodiversity to ecosystem resilience and carbon storage, have in place, and implement, a national plan for ecosystem restoration.

Target 16: By 2015, the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization is in force and operational, consistent with national legislation.

20. This target is related to Article 15 of the Convention and relevant decisions on access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing, and the Nagoya Protocol. Examples of activities are such as those to: provide technical assistance to develop national ABS frameworks and legislation and implement the Nagoya Protocol; implement awareness raising activities among users and providers of genetic resources; provide technical assistance to support research and utilization of genetic resources to generate value. Parties should aim for, for instance by 2012, the early entry into force of the Nagoya Protocol on access and benefit-sharing, and develop, for instance by 2014, the domestic policies and initiated relevant measures in line with the Convention, and the Nagoya Protocol, as appropriate.

E. Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building

Target 17: By 2015 each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan.

21. This target is related to Article 6 of the Convention and relevant decisions on national biodiversity strategies and action plans. Examples of activities include: further development of national planning processes, and national clearing house mechanisms; development of, where appropriate, regional and subnational strategies; effective use of NBSAPs as tools for mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society. Each Party may adopt, for instance by 2012, a set of national targets to contribute to the global targets of the 2011-2020 Strategic Plan of the Convention and incorporate these into its national biodiversity strategy. Each Party should adopt, for instance by 2014, an up-to-date, effective and operational national biodiversity strategy which contributes to the 2011-2020 Strategic Plan.

Target 18: By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels.

22. This target is related to Article 8(j) and related provisions of the Convention as well as relevant decisions on Traditional knowledge, innovations and practices. Examples of activities are such as those to: implement Article 8(j); implement and support the Satoyama initiative and similar initiatives. Parties may carry out, for instance by 2012, a review of the use of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, in collaboration with indigenous and local communities, put in place, for instance by 2014, adequate measures to protect traditional knowledge and the rights of indigenous and local communities to practice their traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, and develop and put in place, for instance by 2016, a strategy to promote traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, with the approval of the knowledge holders.

Target 19: By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied.

23. This target is related to relevant decisions on identification, monitoring, indicators and assessments, technology transfer and cooperation, Global Taxonomy Initiative. Examples of activities are such as those to: further develop the clearing-house mechanism at national and global levels; improve understanding of biodiversity, relationship with ecosystem services and human well-being and consequences of loss; reduce uncertainties concerning the causes and consequences of biodiversity loss in future scenarios; improve global monitoring and capacity to use indicators; improve the science-policy interface. Parties may carry out, for instance by 2012, a review of the relevant knowledge and technologies potential available in-country and of the gaps in knowledge and technologies necessary to implement the Convention, and establish, for instance by 2014, a national clearing-house mechanism, together with a strategy to improve access to knowledge and technologies.

Target 20: By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan 2011-2020 from all sources and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resources needs assessments to be developed and reported by Parties.

24. This target is related to Articles 20 and 21 of the Convention and relevant decisions on the strategy for resource mobilization. Examples of activities are such as those to: increase Official Development Assistance; reinforce domestic capacity; implement innovative financing mechanisms; apply appropriate allocation of resources; improve dialogue and coordination among donors and recipients of bilateral and multilateral aid; undertake training and capacity-building; promote professional networks and exchange of expertise. Parties may develop, for instance by 2012, their first financial plans for biodiversity and ecosystem services or country-specific resource mobilization strategies.
