



International Expert Workshop on the 2010 Biodiversity Indicators and Post-2010 Indicator Development

A workshop convened by the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC)

In cooperation with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

Hosted by the UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), with funding provided by the European Commission (EC), the UK Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC), and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Innovation Centre, Reading, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

6-8 July 2009

Reports of Previous Meetings on Post-2010

This document contains summary reports of three high level meetings known to have taken place over the course of the preceding months. They are recognised as of interest and relevance to the participants of this workshop.

The documents are as follows:

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2	<i>Sustainability Beyond 2010: Perspectives from Experiences</i> (UNEP; Nairobi, Kenya; 15 February 2009)
7	<i>High-level working group on the future of global targets for biodiversity</i> (German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety; Bonn, Germany; 9-10 March 2009)
10	<i>"Carta di Siracusa" on Biodiversity</i> (G8 Environment Ministers' Meeting Siracusa, Italy; 22-24 April 2009)
14	<i>Environment: Commission calls for a shakeup in EU biodiversity policy</i> (Biodiversity Protection - Beyond 2010: Priorities and options for future EU Policy; European Union; Athens, Greece; 27-28 April 2009)
20	<i>Declaracion de Lima sobre La Meta 2010</i> (IUCN & CBD; Lima Peru; May 2009)

Sustainability Beyond 2010: Perspectives from Experiences

1. In 2002, the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) adopted a strategic plan including the target of achieving by 2010 a significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss at the global, regional and national levels as a contribution to poverty alleviation and to the benefit of all life on Earth. This target was subsequently endorsed by the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) and incorporated into the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). In 2006, the UN General Assembly declared the year 2010 as the International the Year of Biodiversity and adopted a resolution that calls for a high level segment of the UNGA at its 65 session in 2010. The Conference of Partise at it tenth meeting (October-November 2010) will review progress made towards the achievement of its strategic plan with the 2010 biodiversity target and identify future biodiversity targets.

2. Since the Stockholm Summit in 1972, environment and sustainable development received considerable attention that resulted in several assessments and status reports on the contribution of biodiversity to sustainability and human well-being. The CBD laid the foundation for an integrated and holistic approach to conservation that calls for both sustainable use as well as sharing the benefits of such use equitably through the Access and Benefit Sharing provisions. Issues of sustainability and equity that formed the basis of adopting CBD during the Earth Summit in 1992 also need re-thinking in terms of effectively integrating the principles into future discussions of biodiversity conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing.

3. Fifteen years of experience from countries implementing the CBD and responding to emerging global conceptual vision must be set but it must also be brutally pragmatic. challenges facing biodiversity, especially its loss due to various natural and anthropogenic factors, have now provided us with a range of options to enable us to respond to future challenges to reduce biodiversity loss with an aim that such actions are not conservation-centred but human-centred.

4. Adoption of the global biodiversity targets by the CBD and subsequently by the WSSD warrants integrated and holistic approaches to assess the impacts and outcomes of past and current actions to reduce biodiversity loss besides looking at further development of the targets beyond 2010 in a manner that provides options for Such co-ordination must occur at all levels – local-global-between agencies and time-bound assessments, realisitic target setting, national and regional actions for global achievements and between processes. Effective development and implementation of post 2010 targets implementable options for various stakeholders to own the targets and help realise the outcomes.

5. Based on available information collated from national reports from Parties to the CBD (3rd national reports), MDG reports, annual reports of various agencies at different levels, assessments and analysis of information and data, the following can be argued as the key messages that could provide us with some status and trend issues related to biodiversity loss:

- People rely on biodiversity for their daily livelihoods without realising and responding to the speed at which biodiversity, ecosystem goods and services are being eroded permanently;
- There is a general awareness among policy makers that biodiversity acts as the asset for future development. However, such an awareness is not always translated into actions to conserve, use and share biodiversity;
- While the increased focus on environmental issues such as climate change is receiving highest attention at different levels, the very basis of mitigation and adaptation options for dealing with climate change - biodiversity - lacks the needed attention and support;
- Implementation and compliance to CBD and actions to realize the MDG targets are being pursued from different angles and agencies, often with no connection or relationship, threatening the very basis of achieving sustainable development;
- The rigor with which science is used in policy making and implementation of biodiversity conservation action is still being questioned creating the basis for lack of convincing arguments to deal with biodiversity issues at policy and political levels;
- Environment and biodiversity are often used and understood in confusing manner by stakeholders. Resulting outcome is the lack of focus on biodiversity under the CCA/UNDAF processes at country level;
- Need for cooperation among agencies and stakeholders to relate their programmes and actions to reduce biodiversity loss and promote the principles of CBD is always felt, more so recently, due to diminishing attention to underestimating impacts of conservation action; and
- In spite of good intentions to deal with coordinated action to reduce biodiversity loss and enhance human well-being, translation of such intentions to actions is weak by countries and agencies.

6. While arguments in favour of sustainable development and redefining sustainability as a concept with focus on better environmental management are increasing, issues of equity, ethics, rights and privileges of communities still need policy support and implementation experiences. Translating such concepts into actionable programmes need priority focus.

7. Considering the need to evaluate, discuss and design a set of global targets for reducing biodiversity loss in order to reduce poverty and achieve sustainable development beyond 2010, it is time for stakeholders to reflect upon and answer the following questions:

- How and why are current biodiversity targets being met and not met?

- What conditions at local, national, regional and global levels are prevailing on conservation action that either promotes or stops actions to reduce biodiversity loss?
- What are the strategic and policy gaps in mainstreaming biodiversity conservation as the business of common person and country development frameworks?
- If biodiversity has to receive its due attention, what interventions are needed and how will they be delivered and used?
- Should we develop the next set of targets for reducing biodiversity loss for poverty reduction and sustainable development that are long term with achievable and accountable time lines supported by some rational and practical means to realise them?
- How much should the future strategic plan of CBD be a 'bottoms up' approach compared to the 'tops down approach'?
- When is it time to move away from the thinking 'think global and act local' to 'think local and act global'?
- What will be the relevance of development discourse in the absence of balanced focus on components of environment and their impacts on human well-being and how such lacunae can be corrected, if they exist?
- What should be the realistic and inclusive 'road map' for deigning and delivering the future of biodiversity target(s)? and
- How will countries rise above their national interests to deal with biodiversity and sustainability so that we re-look at the past with a sense of concern?
- If sustainability is about managing resources for the future without compromising on present needs, what challenges need to be considered while defining the post 2010 biodiversity targets, given the patterns and modes of biodiversity loss?

8. Recognising the need for engaging in a series of dialogues and discussions on the issues above, UNEP is calling for stakeholders to be realistic, responsive and strategic so that we can together maximise the global attention being called for in 2010 to re-shape the biodiversity agenda. While complexity is not an excuse for inaction, we hope the discussions in coming months on re-defining the biodiversity agenda results in conservation action and not assiduous conversation.

To this end, UNEP organized an informal strategic consultation on development of post 2010 targets on 15th February 2009, at Nairobi. The outcome of this consultation is presented here:

Outcomes of the UNEP Informal Strategic Consultation on “Sustainability Beyond 2010: Perspectives from Experiences” Chair’s Summary

The significance of the 2010 Target cannot be underscored enough. The targets that we have now are not perfect but they helped to keep biodiversity high on the agenda. The current targets paved the way to focus on the following:

- Need for broader stakeholder involvement,
- Need for improved science-policy interface
- Improved the understanding of the value of biodiversity (TEEB - Stern-like report of biodiversity)
- Generated many success stories
- Produced a unifying message with one objective, but with a multitude of approaches.

Despite many of the achievements, the target was developed through a political process without engaging the scientific community and without setting a baseline from which to measure the progress toward achieving the target. In addition, the target was not directly linked to sustainability and thus did not generate the relevance to current national agendas (such as poverty alleviation, energy efficiency etc) necessary for policy and management reactions.

The deadline for meeting the target is fast approaching and there is now an opportunity to revisit the target in a more systematic manner.

Building Blocks for Post-2010

It is crucial that when thinking about the post 2010 agenda for the biodiversity target that it be based on several key building blocks. These building blocks should be constructed by engaging full stakeholder involvement and including indigenous community and the private sector. Scale (i.e. regional level) will also remain an overarching factor. The communication strategy for engaging this different sector will be also important. Some of key building blocks as identified by this meeting are the following:

- **Science** - The science of biodiversity ecosystems is complex and incomplete and therefore subject to attempts at rationalisation which sometimes confuses or leaves decision-makers at a loss. But the scientific basis is important and there needs to be a stronger interface with policy. Such an interface must be based on the links between human well-being and livelihoods, the natural capital base and biodiversity. In other words from the perspective of sustainability—the capital base required to support biodiversity needs to be ensured so that that the key ecosystem services are sustainably maintained---not just today, not just tomorrow but in the years and generations to come. A scientific rationale that combines these components in a coherent framework must form the conceptual basis for understanding how the post-2010 biodiversity targets would be constructed
- **Metrics and timeframe** - There is a need for quantifiable targets. Even if it is not perfect, it needs to be a proxy by which we can measure progress and indicate gaps and needs. A target without explicit timeframes and milestones is uninteresting to politicians. A high conceptual vision must be set but it must also be brutally pragmatic.
- **Economics** - The point where hard decisions are taken is based on financial terms. If it can be shown, that millions are being lost because of unsustainable use, then action will be taken since no one to hear or see economic loss.

- **Coordination** - Coordination is key to achieve results in realizing current targets and setting new ones. Such co-ordination must occur at all levels – local-global-between agencies and between processes. Effective development and implementation of post 2010 targets impinges upon effective co-ordination, networking and information exchange. As we move to the International Year of Biodiversity, UNGA in New York, COP10 in Nagoya all in 2010. These building blocks could be carried forward and form the basis for discussion at these strategic meetings.

High-level working group on the future of global targets for biodiversity

9-10 March 2009 (Bonn, Germany)

A. Introduction

From the 9-10 March 2009 some 50 distinguished participants, at the invitation of the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety as the current Presidency of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), gathered in Bonn to provide clear and bold direction for future international commitments on biodiversity.

The meeting provided a timely opportunity to discuss the framework for the post 2010 biodiversity target and to prepare the ground for the discussion and action on the global biodiversity agenda. The outcome of the rich discussions at this meeting is a set of suggestions to the UN for further discussions on the future biodiversity targets of the United Nations.

B. Main messages emanating from the meeting

1. State and importance of biological diversity

• **Biodiversity and Ecosystems:** *All life on Earth, including human society, depends upon a variety of services provided by nature, the values of which need wider recognition. Maintaining these services is vital, especially in a world facing massive environmental and economical pressures. This requires that any post 2010 framework ensures the conservation and sustainable use of healthy ecosystems and of the biodiversity upon which their continued functioning depends, as well as the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources.*

• **Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services and Poverty Eradication:** *The 2010 target provided a valuable framework for biodiversity actions, but missed the opportunity to mobilize significant public support and harness adequate political commitment. This could potentially have happened if the critical role of nature and its ecosystem services in supporting human wellbeing had been more clearly incorporated into the 2010 target. For instance, freshwaters, forests, and fisheries are forms of natural capital from which we draw ecosystem services such as clean water, fresh air, carbon storage, food, fiber, and fuel. Nature's services are valuable to the rich and they are irreplaceable and critical for the survival of the poor. Nature is the Treasury of all human beings, especially the Poor. There is no chance for success in poverty eradication and implementing the Millennium Development Goals without well functioning ecosystems at all levels.*

• **Biodiversity and Climate Change:** *Healthy ecosystems store carbon but if degraded or destroyed release this as carbon dioxide, one of the principal causes of climate change. Transforming industrial production, energy supply, heating of houses, traffic and transport in a sustainable climate-friendly way is already a tough challenge! Without reducing greenhouse gas emissions originating from the degradation and destruction of ecosystems the challenges of climate change will be hard to achieve. At the same time, climate change is an increasing threat to the maintenance of biodiversity, directly through its potential to accelerate species extinction and indirectly through potentially*

negative impacts of mitigation measures. Not using synergies between climate change and biodiversity policies would be a double failure - a lose-lose-situation!

• Drivers of Biodiversity loss: *Land-use change, eutrophication, the unsustainable use of biological resources, overexploitation of marine ecosystems and invasive alien species continue to be the main drivers of biodiversity loss, but are increasingly exacerbated by climate change. All these drivers of biodiversity loss must be addressed within any post 2010 framework.*

• Guidance for a living planet: *Any post 2010 target should provide a sense of urgency and be ambitious, simple but meaningful, politically relevant, scientifically credible, inclusive, inspiring, user-friendly and implementable. The new target should consider the key drivers of biodiversity loss and comprise the three objectives of the CBD (conservation, sustainable use, access and benefit sharing)*

2. Leadership for biodiversity and ecosystems!

The global biodiversity target will not be reached by 2010! But there are a number of success stories at sectoral, regional, national and local level. Post 2010 targets should build upon the current 2010 target and the lessons learned from this process. For instance, the target has been useful in introducing biodiversity to the international political agenda, raising political and public awareness, building partnerships among institutions and promoting integration of biodiversity in key political processes.

Both medium- and long-term target dates (i.e. 2020 and 2050) should be considered, taking into account existing and other relevant targets, such as those of the Millennium Development Goals. Establishing links between biodiversity and climate change agendas, and other multilateral environmental agreements, should be a priority for any post 2010 framework. In order to ensure measurability, monitoring and assessment of any post 2010 framework, the establishment of baselines, clear milestones and sub-targets, and of an agreed set of indicators to measure performance, is important. Key policy makers of different sectors should be involved in the process of defining sub-targets and special targets for the local, regional and national levels.

3. Using the crisis for a planet deal!

The world is facing an economic crisis that may offer opportunities for reforms favoring biodiversity. The valuation of ecosystem services can provide the trigger for change and can serve as a starting point for moving towards a green and sustainable economy. This process can include increased investment in biodiversity as a utility in ecological infrastructure such as bio-diverse, natural carbon sinks and water-purifying wetlands. In this respect, addressing current consumption and production patterns which have a negative impact on the status of biodiversity is also essential. Maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem services also through trade-related agreements could provide a key turning point for any post 2010 biodiversity agenda and for an overall global new deal for our planet.

In addition, the ongoing discussions on the post Kyoto climate regime provide a unique opportunity to further advance the post 2010 biodiversity agenda. At the same time the negotiation of an international regime on Access and Benefit Sharing is to be concluded

by 2010 as a key element for any post 2010 target. This achievement should be considered in the development of the post 2010 target.

Finally, to achieve the necessary paradigm shift it will be essential that the biodiversity community speaks the language of other constituencies, in order to promote synergies among agendas. Building strategic partnerships, including between countries and across different sectors, will assist in enhancing these synergies.

4. Creating broad ownership for the planet deal!

The post 2010 biodiversity target as part of a global green new deal for our planet has to be adopted at the highest level – the Heads of Government and State - thus providing a mechanism for mainstreaming and policy integration, including horizontal cooperation between ministries. Achieving the target must be incorporated into the mandates of ministries responsible for key sectors – including finance, agriculture, fisheries and forests – with sub-targets specific to those sectors. Any future targets should be integrated into relevant national policy instruments such as national biodiversity action plans, national development plans, etc.

While Governments should be taking the lead support of stakeholders such as civil society, scientists, indigenous peoples, local communities, and the private sector is vital to obtain broad ownership of all stakeholders in the definition and implementation of any post 2010 target.

Defining and implementing future targets and related indicators should be a knowledge driven process informed by science. Instruments that allow for a stronger interface between science and policy, such as the International Platform for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), should support the implementation of any post 2010 target. “Biodiversity” champions and the mass media are essential to engage present and future generations in order to ensure a broader involvement of society.

C. The roadmap for 2010

All relevant events in the run up to 2010 should be used to further develop the messages for 2010. The coming 18 months will provide several opportunities to carry forward the discussions around the post 2010 target within and outside biodiversity-related fora, including events such as those related to the climate change negotiations, the fifth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility and other high-level meetings such as the United Nations General Assembly, G8 and G20 meetings.

2010 as the UN ‘International Year for Biodiversity’ will be a crucial year for biodiversity in many respects. A sequence of high level conferences allow for an inclusive roadmap leading to a new biodiversity target: in February the global biodiversity community will convene in Trondheim, Norway, to discuss further the elements for a post 2010 target; in February UNEP’s Governing Council and Global Ministerial Environment Forum will re-convene; and in May the subsidiary bodies of the CBD (SBSTTA and WGRI) will take stock and advance the post 2010 negotiations, which will feed into the Heads of State Summit that will gather at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in September for a special session devoted to biodiversity; finally, in October the 10th Conference of the Parties to the CBD will meet in Nagoya, Japan. Strong commitments of participants in all these meetings are needed. There is a need to make the difference!



“Carta di Siracusa” on Biodiversity

We, the G8 Environment Ministers, together with the Ministers of Australia, Brazil, China, Czech Republic, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Sweden and the International Organisations participating in the Siracusa meeting;

- I. *acknowledging* the importance of addressing biodiversity as an essential part of the G8 dialogues and building on the “Potsdam Initiative” and the “Kobe Call for Action for Biodiversity”;
- II. *recognising* the importance of the 2010 target, also reiterated at the Heiligendamm and Hokkaido Toyako G8 Summits, and wishing to keep the momentum on biodiversity in the La Maddalena G8 Summit and beyond;
- III. *fully aware of* the key role that biodiversity and ecosystem services play in underpinning human well-being and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs),
- IV. *committed to* the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD);
- V. *highly concerned* that biodiversity loss and the consequent reduction and damaging of ecosystem services affect food security and water availability and reduce the capacity of biodiversity to mitigate and adapt to climate change, as well as undermining global economic processes;
- VI. *acknowledging* the substantial efforts made to achieve the 2010 target;
- VII. *recalling* the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) Plan of Implementation, noting that efforts to significantly reduce the current rate of loss of biological diversity will require the provision of new and additional financial and technical resources to developing countries;
- VIII. *recognising* the urgent need to support and strengthen the international process for the identification of an ambitious and achievable post-2010 common framework on biodiversity, involving all relevant actors and stakeholders and based on the lessons learned from the 2010 target;
- IX. *noting* the informal discussions of the High Level Working Group on the Future of Global Targets for Biodiversity convened by the current presidency of the CBD in Bonn, March 2009;
- X. *aware of the importance and committed to* make the best use of the opportunities arising from the celebration of the International Year of Biodiversity and the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) High Level Meeting on Biodiversity in 2010, thus stressing the key role of biodiversity on the international political agenda;
- XI. *convinced* of the need for the timely completion of the process of exploring mechanisms to improve the science-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services;
- XII. *committed to* investments in biodiversity as a driving force to overcome the economic crisis, to promote job creation and to generate long-term economic benefits;
- XIII. *convinced* of the need to improve understanding of the benefits arising from biodiversity and ecosystem services and the costs of their loss, as well as to identify cost-effective policy options for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and for ensuring the resilience of ecosystems;

decide to take the following actions:

Biodiversity and Climate

1. Developing synergistic policies that consider the contribution that biodiversity and ecosystems provide for climate change adaptation and mitigation at local, national and global levels, taking into account that biodiversity and ecosystem services are critical for regulating our climate.
2. Proactively putting in place actions for climate change adaptation of natural and managed ecosystems since spontaneous adaptation is not expected to be sufficient to reduce the impacts on biodiversity at all levels, or on vulnerable ecosystems, or for long-term human well-being.
3. Pursuing a significantly improved understanding of the role of communities and ecosystems in climate change adaptation measures with a view to building their resilience and adaptive capacity and generating additional economic benefits.
4. Implementing biodiversity conservation and sustainable use actions with a view to improving climate adaptation in priority sectoral areas such as management of water, forests, agriculture, marine and coastal areas and infrastructure development, which include the use of new and improved technologies, paying special attention to sustaining ecosystem services.
5. Combating illegal logging, according with relevant legislation, including through support for sustainable forest management, as a contribution to supporting human livelihoods, conserving and sustainably using biodiversity and increasing carbon storage and sequestration.
6. Developing land-based climate change mitigation approaches, such as Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD) while promoting biodiversity conservation, sustainable forest management and enhancement of forest carbon stocks, to integrate the mitigation potential of forests and other land uses into future action to tackle climate change, taking into account the potential for such approaches to serve as a model for valuation of and payment for ecosystem services;
7. Ensuring the development and transfer of best practice, as well as soft and hard technologies, through mutually agreed terms, which will be essential to achieve a coordinated response and the cost-effective use of resources in coping with biodiversity loss and climate change.

Biodiversity, Economics and Business

8. Strengthening the use of economics as a tool to achieve biodiversity policy goals through mainstreaming an improved understanding of the benefits arising from biodiversity and ecosystem services and the costs of their loss, as well as the identification of consequent cost-effective policy options for the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services.
9. Investing in conservation, sustainable use of natural resources and climate change mitigation and adaptation in order to contribute to a green global economic recovery, through a positive and sustainable labour market trend and to contribute to poverty alleviation and to help all stakeholders in decision-making, taking into account their individual responsibilities.
10. Providing impetus, resonance and support to the ongoing study on “The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity” (TEEB) introduced by the Potsdam Initiative and within the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment follow-up strategy, as well as similar studies. The private sector, civil society and individual citizens should be fully involved in the different stages of the development of these studies and the implementation of their outcomes.
11. Working towards the timely completion of the negotiation on the international access and benefit sharing regime to allow for its integration within the post 2010 framework.
12. Raising awareness, at all levels, on how terrestrial and marine ecosystems provide a steady flow of goods and services, including human life-support functions for present and future generations, and developing market opportunities or other means and mechanisms to affirm these values.

13. Broadening support for actions to combat the illegal trade in wildlife, where trafficking threatens both the components of ecosystems and the sustainable wildlife resources which poor communities value and from which they often derive sustainable sources of income.
14. Promoting the establishment, restoration and effective management of protected areas and their ecological connectivity as an essential tool for the continuous flow of ecosystem services.
15. Improving, promoting and effectively managing systems of terrestrial and marine protected area networks, to encourage economic and employment opportunities, and also promoting new and innovative financial mechanisms such as the Life Web initiative.
16. Avoiding or minimizing any adverse impact on biodiversity from the implementation of infrastructure development programmes, as well as considering how such programmes can effectively contribute to investments in 'Green/Greening Infrastructure'.

Management of Biodiversity and Ecosystems Services

17. Maintaining and restoring the long-term flow of ecosystem services.
18. Implementing biodiversity policies and incentives that relate to all relevant sectors, including forests, fisheries and agriculture; promoting markets for environmentally friendly products produced in harmony with nature; and promoting sustainable natural resource management as also mentioned in the Satoyama Initiative introduced by the Kobe Call for Action, so as to create the conditions to achieve the MDGs.
19. Achieving the ecological conservation and sustainable development of marine and coastal zones, in particular by applying the principles of integrated coastal zone management such as already initiated in the Mediterranean by the UNEP Regional Seas Programme.
20. Developing and strengthening actions to prevent and to control invasive alien species, also taking into consideration the high costs of coping with existing invasions and their strong impact on biodiversity and ecosystem services. Among the priority actions to implement are early warning and rapid response.

Science, Research and Policy

21. Continuing the process of exploring mechanisms to improve the science-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, long-term human well-being and sustainable development, taking into account the special need to develop and maintain the technical and scientific capacity of developing countries in biodiversity-related issues, as stated by the 25th UNEP Session of the Governing Council and the 10th Global Ministerial Environment Forum; and, looking forward to the next intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder meeting in October 2009, reaffirming our commitment to advance this process further, and striving to complete this process at the earliest possible time.
22. Supporting cooperation among countries, relevant international organizations, research institutes and NGOs to further global monitoring of biodiversity, building upon the effective networking of existing monitoring schemes.
23. Achieving biodiversity data, including data on appropriate indicators of human well-being, which is reliable, comparable and inter-operable, and developing a global network to exchange scientific knowledge, best practice, technologies and innovation, based on existing organizations, centres and mechanisms.
24. Fostering comprehensive and focused research and capacity building, at all levels, on biodiversity and ecosystem services, taking into account different capabilities of countries and improving the

development and wide use of advanced technologies to carry out monitoring of biodiversity changes and global environmental assessment.

And on the basis of the above we also propose:

A common path toward the post-2010 framework on biodiversity

- a) The multiple challenges that the world faces today are an unmistakable indication that we need to strengthen our efforts to conserve and sustainably manage biodiversity and natural resources.
- b) As significant economic loss arises due to the unsustainable use of biodiversity, timely and proper programmes and actions, aimed at strengthening the resilience of ecosystems, must be taken.
- c) Notwithstanding the efforts and commitments to achieve the 2010 target, direct and indirect drivers of biodiversity loss, aggravated by climate change, still continue. Furthermore, the world has been changing rapidly since the adoption of the 2010 target. All of these drivers of biodiversity loss, causing mid and long-term threats to biodiversity and identified on the basis of scientific research, should be considered in the development of the post-2010 framework.
- d) A thorough communication strategy, fully engaging all the different sectors, as well as stakeholders, indigenous and local communities and the private sector, to emphasise their own participation and their responsibilities, is also a key factor for the effective implementation of the post-2010 biodiversity framework.
- e) The reform of environmental governance at all levels is essential to integrate biodiversity and ecosystem services into all policies, to turn the current weaknesses in economic systems into opportunities and to boost sustainable development and employment, taking particular account of the circumstances of developing countries.

Brussels, 28 April 2009.

Environment: Commission calls for a shakeup in EU biodiversity policy

A European Commission conference on biodiversity in Athens has issued a forward-looking message regarding the future biodiversity policy of the European Union. Key findings include the need to improve communication about the loss and its consequences, the importance of thinking about ecosystem protection rather than species protection, and the need to ensure that available funds are indeed channelled towards nature protection projects. Scientists acknowledge that biodiversity is in crisis around the world, and that too little is being done to protect it. Europe has a target date of 2010 for halting biodiversity loss in the EU, and while some progress has been made in halting the decline, the original target is unlikely to be met. The Commission called a conference in Athens to examine ways of improving its performance.

EU Environment Commissioner Stavros Dimas said: "Biodiversity is life – beautiful, precious and fragile. But is also the basis of our economic and social well-being. This is not widely enough recognised and valued. As a result, it is in serious decline. The fact is that biodiversity loss poses a threat every bit as worrying as climate change. The Message from Athens underlines that biodiversity needs to become a universal political priority, because only then will we have a realistic chance of stopping biodiversity loss."

A eight-point plan for nature protection

A wealth of new ideas was discussed at the conference, leading up to the message from Athens. The main points of the message are :

1. **A vision of why biodiversity matters.** A better understanding is needed of the fact that healthy ecosystems deliver tangible benefits underpinning our economic, social and cultural well-being. The message of "why biodiversity matters" needs to be clear and made more prominent.
2. **A better understanding of where we are and what we need to do.** Better information on the state of biodiversity and current trends in biodiversity is crucial. A better understanding of how natural systems work is also needed. The conference recommended that biodiversity research should be made a higher priority.
3. **A fully functioning network of protected areas.** One of the great successes of recent years has been the consolidation of Natura 2000, Europe's network of protected areas. The terrestrial part of the network should be completed by 2010 and the marine part soon after.

4. Protecting "ordinary" biodiversity in Europe. The statement stresses that biodiversity policy should evolve towards the protection of the resilience and vitality of entire ecosystems, as well as high nature value protected areas.

5. Protecting global biodiversity. Europe's "biodiversity footprint" in the rest of the world is large and is growing, and this needs to be addressed. Global deforestation must be stopped by 2030, and measures are needed to address the impact of European patterns of consumption on global biodiversity loss.

6. Integration of biodiversity into other policy areas. The message recognizes the importance of integrating that biodiversity concerns into other policy areas. More research is needed to identify areas where greater account needs to be taken of biodiversity impacts.

7. Funding. Although many EU and national funds can theoretically channel funds toward biodiversity protection, the actual level of financial resources allocated to nature protection remains relatively small. This needs to be addressed, and new funding made available if necessary.

8. Climate Change. We cannot solve biodiversity loss without addressing climate change and vice versa. We therefore need to look for the "triple win" of biodiversity that can actively contribute to climate mitigation and adaptation. This presupposes that climate measures are fully compatible with policies for the protection of biodiversity.

Background

The Athens conference ([Biodiversity protection beyond 2010: priorities and options for future EU policy](#)) was attended by leading scientists, politicians, economists and academics from all EU Member States, and by representatives from civil society and business. Environment Commissioner Dimas welcomed the Prime Minister of the Republic of Greece, Dr Kostas Karamanlis and Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso, among other dignitaries. The six workshops, chaired by leading experts in the field, ensured that the various aspects of biodiversity policies were examined in full. Europe has an independent commitment to halt biodiversity loss in the EU by 2010, and a [biodiversity action plan](#) with more than 150 actions to help it reach that target. But a recent [review](#) concluded that the target was unlikely to be reached without a substantial additional effort.

The Message from Athens.

The objective of halting biodiversity loss remains as valid today as it did in 2001 when it was adopted by European Heads of State and Government.

Progress has been made over recent years at the EU level. Covering 17% of EU territory, NATURA 2000 is the largest network of protected areas in the world and is, without question, one of the most significant achievements in EU environment policy. The legal protection of the Birds and Habitats Directives has stopped the destruction of many unique natural areas and EU funding has played a critical role in protecting some of our most endangered species and habitats. Water quality has also improved significantly and sustainable agricultural practices have become increasingly widespread. The Commission has launched new initiatives to tackle illegal logging, to combat global deforestation and to promote sustainable consumption and production.

At the same time scientific indicators show that the EU's 2010 target will not be met. The speed and scale of the loss of biodiversity means that urgent actions are needed. The Message from Athens aims to identify the priorities and options for future EU policy.

There are strong ethical and moral arguments for protecting biodiversity. It is a part of our culture and our history. But, on their own, these arguments have not been sufficient to protect nature. There is increasing recognition that the benefits that human society derives from nature have a very high value and that sustainable human development is dependent upon the continued delivery of these benefits. The true value of these benefits is not reflected in conventional models of economic growth and until this basic failing is addressed, biodiversity will continue to be lost.

There is a very close relationship between climate change and biodiversity. Climate change will have a profound impact upon ecosystems including major shifts in the distribution of habitat types and species. Healthy resilient ecosystems play a major and cost effective role in mitigating, and adapting to the consequences of, climate change.

The way that EU policies relating to agriculture, fisheries, regional development, transport, energy, trade and development are implemented have significant impacts upon EU and global biodiversity. In many of these policy areas progress has been made in integrating biodiversity concerns, but much remains to be done.

EU environmental legislation has contributed significantly to the conservation of biodiversity. However, to be more effective, the separate pieces of legislation should be implemented in a more integrated and co-ordinated manner. A coherent approach to spatial planning needs to be developed and, in particular, the Natura 2000 network should be completed, managed effectively and resourced appropriately.

At a global level, where the target is to significantly reduce the current rate of biodiversity loss, the EU has taken a leading role. However, the impact of European consumption on global biodiversity is an issue that needs to be addressed and biodiversity conservation needs to be integrated more effectively into all the EU's policies that have an impact at the global level.

Priorities for EU Action

One: a vision of why biodiversity matters

It is necessary to develop and communicate a better understanding of why healthy ecosystems deliver tangible benefits that underpin our economic, social and cultural well-being. The message of "why biodiversity matters" needs to be clear and the sense of urgency in addressing its loss conveyed. The EU institutions and Member States should:

- Develop a clear target regarding biodiversity and submit this to the European Council. The post-2010 target should be ambitious, measurable and clear. It should maintain the emphasis given to the intrinsic value of biodiversity while also recognising the value of healthy and resilient ecosystems and the services they provide.
- Ensure that the post-2010 target developed for the EU includes sectoral sub-targets that address the key challenges facing European biodiversity.
- Mainstream the findings of the study on The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) to demonstrate the strong economic rationale for conserving biodiversity.

- Make biodiversity conservation a priority for future communication programmes. It is essential to engage the public at all levels – including through the education system - in order to build an understanding of "why biodiversity matters".
- Develop alliances with key stakeholders who are directly affected by biodiversity loss.

Two: a better understanding of where we are and what more we need to do

The scientific work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has shaped the political response to climate change. A strong science-policy interface is equally needed with regard to biodiversity – particularly since the drivers for biodiversity loss are more complex than for climate change and the direct impacts are harder to measure. Given existing gaps in scientific knowledge the application of the precautionary principle is particularly important. The EU institutions and Member States should:

- Ensure effective coverage of the monitoring programmes for the assessment of the status and of biodiversity and ecosystems in the EU.
- Strengthen and further develop biodiversity indicators, based on SEBI 2010, that are robust, understandable and policy relevant. A specific objective should be the development a biodiversity baseline against which progress can be assessed.
- Improve the science policy interface, both through developing mechanisms within the EU and, at the international level, where the EU should continue to support the establishment of an Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES).
- Give a higher priority to biodiversity within EU and national research programmes.
- Strengthen implementation of the EU's Biodiversity Action Plan.

Three: a fully functioning network of protected areas

Protected areas contain our most precious species and ecosystems. They represent the foundation of biodiversity conservation in Europe and their effectiveness has been scientifically proven. The EU institutions and Member States should:

- Secure the sustainable management of the Natura 2000 network.
- Complete the network, including the marine component, as soon as possible.
- Support the development of similar networks in overseas territories.
- Improve connectivity between sites with a particular consideration to adaptation to climate change.
- Ensure that EU nature legislation is enforced more effectively. Successful management approaches should be identified and good practices promoted. Implementation of the legislation should aim to remove unnecessary administrative burdens.
- To improve communication with regard to the Natura 2000 network.

Four: biodiversity outside of protected areas

Protected areas are essential – but they do not exist in isolation from the rest of the landscape. The state of biodiversity to be found in urban gardens, parks and green spaces, as well as rural areas, is extremely important especially as this is the biodiversity that most of the European population is aware of and can contribute to.

The EU institutions and Member States should:

- Integrate biodiversity explicitly in the development and implementation of EU and domestic policies (water, air, marine, agriculture, fisheries, spatial planning, impact assessment etc).
- Use restoration and renewal of degraded land, intensively cultivated areas and waterways as a driver for sustainable economic development and the social renewal of depressed areas.
- Develop EU policy on biodiversity protection progressively towards a comprehensive approach incorporating the conservation of ecosystems and the protection of Europe's "Green Infrastructure".
- Develop a comprehensive set of EU policies for tackling Invasive Species including, where appropriate, new legislation.
- Implement effective measures to protect Europe's soils which are essential not only with regard to the conservation of terrestrial biodiversity but also for crucial ecosystem services.

Five: Biodiversity and Climate Change

We cannot halt biodiversity loss without addressing climate change, but it is equally impossible to tackle climate change without addressing biodiversity loss. It is therefore essential that climate change policy is fully complementary with biodiversity policy. The EU institutions and the Member States should:

- Ensure that climate mitigation and adaptation measures are fully compatible with policies for the conservation of biodiversity.
- Promote the implementation of "triple win" of measures that conserve biodiversity while actively contributing to climate mitigation and adaptation.
- Ensure that international climate negotiations respect the above principles.

Six: global biodiversity

At a global level, the EU is a leading player with a significant influence in international discussions. However, Europe's consumption patterns mean that our "biodiversity" footprint in third countries is large and is growing. The EU institutions and Member States should:

- Support effective governance structures for the protection of international biodiversity.
- Actively support the process of Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD) to stop global deforestation. The measures adopted should combine climate mitigation with biodiversity conservation and the interests of indigenous people and local communities.
- Take measures to assess and reduce the impact of European patterns of consumption and production on global biodiversity loss.
- Increase cooperation with development institutions and partner countries to maximise the positive contribution that the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity can make to poverty reduction.

- Support efforts to complete and implement the global network of protected areas – in particular, in marine areas that are beyond national jurisdiction.
- Work to protect vulnerable marine ecosystems from destructive fishing practices, support an international agreement on marine genetic resources beyond national jurisdiction and continue work with developing countries to improve fisheries governance in their waters.
- Ensure that biodiversity concerns are fully taken into account by bilateral and global agreements on trade and investment.
- Work to finalise an agreement by 2010 on an international regime facilitating access to and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of genetic resources in the context of CBD.

Seven: integration of biodiversity into other policy areas

Effective integration of biodiversity concerns into other policies is needed to (i) minimise damage (ii) maximise the positive contribution to nature conservation objectives and (iii) realise the potential of co-benefits resulting from the maintenance and enhancement of healthy ecosystems. To improve upon existing initiatives the EU institutions and the Member States should:

- Review the impacts that EU policies, and EU funds, have on biodiversity – including biodiversity loss in third countries.
- Identify and promote synergies between biodiversity conservation and other policies.
- Ensure, taking the TEEB study as a starting point, that the real value of ecosystem services are taken into consideration when designing relevant EU policies.
- Extend policies on sustainable consumption and production to also cover the sustainable use of natural resources.
- Reduce fishing pressure to sustainable levels in order to improve biodiversity in the marine environment.
- Promote investment in biodiversity as a part of efforts to "green the economy" and fully exploit the potential that biodiversity restoration and conservation offers in terms of job creation.
- Encourage market mechanisms that take biodiversity concerns into account (e.g. supporting sustainable agriculture, forestry and fisheries) and promote policies that allow EU businesses to profit from protecting biodiversity.

Eight: Funding

Many EU and national funds open the possibility of providing financial support for protecting biodiversity. However, the actual level of financial resources allocated to biodiversity conservation remains small (especially when compared to the welfare benefits that ecosystem services provide). The EU institutions and the Member States should:

- Evaluate the success of the "integration" approach. If there is evidence that it is not working, then propose a specific funding instrument for biodiversity.
- Mobilise private funding for biodiversity protection building on experience with climate change and other environmental finance initiatives.
- Review the opportunities for making progress on biodiversity, a pre-condition for access to some Community funding instruments.
- Ensure sufficient funding for biodiversity conservation in the EU budget-review.
- Identify and reform subsidies that have a negative impact on biodiversity.



DECLARACION DE LIMA SOBRE LA META 2010

Falta poco: de dónde venimos, hacia dónde vamos

¿Qué vamos a alcanzar al 2010?

¿Dónde vamos a priorizar?

A 590 días de la Meta 2010, 35 participantes de nueve países de Sudamérica se reunieron en la sede de la Secretaría General de la Comunidad Andina (CAN) en la ciudad de Lima para tratar los avances, logros y desafíos de la misma. Asimismo, propusieron acciones prioritarias dentro del contexto actual regional y mundial a ser trabajadas hasta la Décima Conferencia de las Partes del Convenio sobre la Diversidad Biológica (CDB).

Los participantes reconocieron la existencia de importantes avances y logros a nivel regional y nacional en el cumplimiento de la Meta 2010. Por ejemplo, los programas de trabajo en Áreas Protegidas, conservación de bosques, ecosistemas andinos, ecosistemas marinos y costeros, planes de acción para especies amenazadas, entre otros.

Se plantearon asimismo desafíos, tales como la necesidad de contar con información base para el desarrollo de un sistema práctico de monitoreo para la Meta 2010 e igualmente contar con recursos financieros nuevos y adicionales.

Tres grandes temas se destacaron como prioritarios para ser llevados a las distintas instancias regionales, nacionales y locales, los cuales son: comunicación, participación y resultados a presentar al 2010.

¿Cómo vamos a comunicar?

Utilizando el año internacional de la biodiversidad 2010 se sensibilizará al público en general, mediante un mensaje claro, positivo y realista:

- Difundir el compromiso de los países de la región con la Meta 2010 del CDB.
- “Traducir” la información contenida en el 4to Reporte Nacional de los países al CDB al público en general.
- Identificar y difundir experiencias y lecciones aprendidas para cada una de las metas, desarrolladas para diferentes sectores.
- Coordinar con los Ministerios de Educación y otras instancias correspondientes para comunicar la importancia de la biodiversidad.

¿A quiénes debemos involucrar?

Identificando y ampliando la plataforma de actores a incluir en el debate, que se encuentran a diferentes niveles y sectores:

- Involucrar a los gobiernos locales y sub nacionales como actores decisores para la conservación y gestión de la biodiversidad y uso del suelo.
- Acercar el tema de la biodiversidad a los ciudadanos.
- Involucrar a los Ministerios/Secretarías de Educación, Economía, Energía, Agricultura, entre otros.
- Incorporar a la sociedad en general, comunidades locales, pueblos indígenas, en la gestión participativa de la biodiversidad.

- Identificar sinergias claves entre las agendas nacionales de los convenios internacionales y regionales, con énfasis particular en la Convención Marco de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Cambio Climático.

Lo que vamos a presentar al 2010:

Teniendo en cuenta el contenido del 4to Informe Nacional al CDB de los países y los reportes de la Meta 2010:

- Información clave e identificación de las capacidades técnicas necesarias para desarrollar indicadores compatibles a nivel regional.
- Recopilación y dentro de lo posible, revisión y análisis de la legislación ambiental existente, identificando los vacíos relacionados con la biodiversidad y servicios ambientales.
- Experiencias y estudios de valoración de la biodiversidad y los servicios ambientales.
- Contribuciones al estudio global sobre la Economía de los Ecosistema y Biodiversidad (TEEB), para influenciar a los tomadores de decisiones.

Se recomienda la definición de metas Post 2010 a nivel sudamericano sugiriéndose el involucramiento de las Secretarías Generales de la CAN, MERCOSUR, la Organización del Tratado de Cooperación Amazónica (OTCA) y otros organismos intergubernamentales.

Lima, Mayo 20 del 2009

Anexo 1

Páginas Web de interés.

www.countdown2010.net/sudamerica
www.cbd.int/2010-target
www.comunidadandina.org
www.iucn.org/sur
www.teeb.org

Anexo 2

Compromisos de los países (contenidos en la Declaración Cuenta Atrás 2010)