



Convention on Biological Diversity

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CAPACITY-BUILDING WORKSHOP FOR CENTRAL AMERICA ON NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS AND MAINSTREAMING OF BIODIVERSITY

Mexico City, Mexico
26 - 27 March 2008

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

INTRODUCTION

1. In paragraph 6 of Decision VIII/8, the Conference of the Parties recommended that regional and/or sub-regional workshops be convened to discuss national experiences in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs), and the integration of biodiversity concerns into relevant sectors, including consideration of obstacles and ways and means for overcoming the obstacles. In its Recommendation 2/1, the second meeting of the Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention (Paris, 9-13 July 2007) reemphasized the importance of organizing such regional workshops.
2. In response, the Executive Secretary is organizing a series of regional/sub-regional workshops on capacity-building for national biodiversity strategies and action plans during 2008. With generous financial support from Spain, the Secretariat is organizing this workshop in Mexico City, Mexico, from 26 to 27 March 2008, in collaboration with the Comisión Nacional para el Conocimiento y Uso de la Biodiversidad (CONABIO). The Workshop will be held in conjunction with the “Workshop on the Evaluation of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Findings and Human Well-Being”, being organized by CONABIO from 24 to 25 March at the same location.
3. The purpose of the workshop is to strengthen national capacities for the development, implementation, reviewing and updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and the integration of biodiversity considerations into relevant national policies, strategies and planning processes. These include cross-sectoral national strategies such as those for development, poverty reduction, the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, adaptation to climate change and combating desertification. Sectoral strategies, such as those for agriculture, forestry, fisheries and tourism, and national and local planning processes are also included. The workshop will promote the exchange of experiences and training on the use of relevant tools and mechanisms, and provide an opportunity for countries to identify ways and means for overcoming challenges in the development and implementation of NBSAPs and mainstreaming. The outcomes of the workshop will provide inputs to the ongoing review of implementation of goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan to be considered by the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in May 2008.

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4. Participants in the workshop comprise officials from each of the countries in the region responsible for the development and/or implementation of NBSAPs, as nominated by the CBD national focal points, as well as resource persons selected for their expertise and experience in supporting the development and implementation of NBSAPs or for integrating biodiversity into national development strategies and planning processes. As indicated in the notification for this workshop, the nominated participants “should be in a position to prepare and present a report on progress made in the development, implementation, reviewing and updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, as well as in the integration of biodiversity concerns into relevant sectors (for example, by using the voluntary guidelines annexed to Decision VIII/8). Moreover, following the workshop, the representative should be in a position to translate the capacity gained into concrete actions in support of national implementation.” Accordingly, nominated participants are requested to undertake some preparatory activities as set out in Annex III.

5. The Secretariat is issuing an information note for participants containing details of logistical arrangements including information on travel, visa requirements, accommodation and other matters for the workshop. The information note is available at www.cbd.int/doc/meeting.aspx?mtg=NBSAPCBW-CAM-01. The language of the workshop will be Spanish.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING AND ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

6. As noted above, the workshop will be held in conjunction with the “Workshop on the Evaluation of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Findings and Human Well-Being”, being organized by CONABIO from 24 to 25 March at the same location. Participants are expected to attend both workshops. A representative of the host Government will open the CBD workshop with a brief statement at 9.00 a.m. on 26 March 2008. A representative of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity will also welcome the participants. Registration of participants will commence at 8:30 on Monday, 24 March 2008.

ITEM 2. OVERVIEW OF THE OBJECTIVES AND PROGRAMME FOR THE WORKSHOP

7. The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity will give an overview of the objectives, the programme and the expected outcomes of the workshop.

8. The provisional agenda of the workshop prepared by the Executive Secretary is available in document UNEP/CBD/NBSAP/CBW-CAM/1/1. The proposed organization is provided in Annex I below. The following provides an overview of the proposed Workshop programme:

Day 1: Status of development and implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans in the region; and

Updating and improvement of national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

Day 2: Integrating biodiversity considerations into sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies including national development strategies, strategies for achieving the Millennium Development Goals and national and local planning processes;

Tools and guidance available for integrating biodiversity considerations into sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies;

Communication and reporting;

Ways forward and next steps in implementing and updating and on mainstreaming of biodiversity; and

Conclusions of the Workshop.

9. The emphasis of the workshop will be on exchange and active learning. With this in mind, the workshop format features a mix of presentations with question and answer sessions, discussions in small working groups, and interactive sessions to introduce relevant tools and training modules.
10. A list of documents for the workshop is attached as Annex II.

ITEM 3. STATUS OF DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS

11. In decision VIII/8 (paragraph 10 (a) (ii)), the Conference of the Parties decided to conduct an in-depth review of the implementation of goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan focused on the status of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, their implementation and updating, and the extent to which biodiversity concerns are effectively integrated into relevant sectors and have been effectively mainstreamed in accordance with Article 6(b) of the Convention. As mentioned above, this series of Workshops is envisaged to contribute to that process.
12. Under this agenda item, participants will consider:
 - (a) A global overview of the status of NBSAPs, drawing upon the preparation for and the conclusions of the second meeting of the Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention held from 13 to 17 July 2007 in Paris, France.¹
 - (b) A regional overview of the status of NBSAPs, drawing upon national reports, NBSAPs, and the experience of UNEP, UNDP and other organizations.
 - (c) Presentations on the status of NBSAPs by some participating countries.
13. Participants will then discuss national experiences and lessons learned in the development and implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, focusing on:
 - (a) Status of NBSAPs or similar strategies and programmes;
 - (b) Major features of NBSAPs;
 - (c) Priority actions identified for implementing NBSAPs;
 - (d) Mechanisms identified for implementing NBSAPs;
 - (e) Obstacles encountered in the implementation of NBSAPs; and
 - (f) Reviews undertaken of the implementation of NBSAPs and assessment of the effectiveness of the strategy.
14. Participants from all countries of the region will have the opportunity to present their NBSAPs during the course of the week. As preparation for the workshop, participants are requested to undertake a self-review of their NBSAPs using the guidelines annexed to decision VIII/8 (see also Annex III).
15. Participating countries will have the opportunity to display posters on the development and implementation of national or local biodiversity strategies and action plans. To ensure consistency in approaches in developing posters, countries are requested to follow the guidelines which are available at <http://www.cbd.int/meetings/wgri-02/poster-guidelines.shtml>.

¹ Document UNEP/CBD/NBSAP/CBW-CAM/1/2; see also UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/2/2, UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/2/2/ADD.1, UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/2/INF.9, UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/2/INF.10, and Recommendation WGRI-2/1.

ITEM 4. UPDATING AND IMPROVEMENT OF NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS

16. Under this item, the Secretariat will introduce the guidance provided by the Conference of the Parties and the recommendation from the second meeting of the Working Group on Review of Implementation concerning the development, implementation and updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans (WGRI Recommendation 2/2).

17. A few countries in the region, which are updating or have updated their NBSAPs, will be invited to share their experiences and perspectives with workshop participants.

18. Participants will work in small groups and analyse their countries' NBSAPs in the light of recent guidance developed under the Convention, with a view to identifying ways of improving the NBSAP and its implementation. Particular focus will be on identifying national targets within the framework developed by the Conference of the Parties.

ITEM 5. INTEGRATING BIODIVERSITY INTO SECTORAL AND CROSS-SECTORAL PLANS, PROGRAMMES AND POLICIES

19. The importance of integrating biodiversity considerations into relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral strategies, plans and programmes is underlined in Article 6(b) of the Convention and has been stressed in many decisions of the Conference of the Parties. This includes COP-8 which, in considering the implications of the findings of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, urged Parties and other Governments to promote dialogue among different sectors, to mainstream biodiversity, at the regional and national levels including, when appropriate, through the processes of the Convention, to address linkages between the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and, among others, international trade, finance, agriculture, forestry, tourism, mining, energy and fisheries. The Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention, when considering guidance for NBSAPs, has made further recommendations in this regard.

20. Under this item, workshop participants will hear a number of presentations on mainstreaming biodiversity into relevant sectoral strategies, plans and programmes. These include national experiences and lessons learned in mainstreaming and cases in economic evaluation of biodiversity and payment for ecosystem services, which provide an important basis for mainstreaming biodiversity into relevant sectors. A few representatives from local governments and non-governmental organizations will introduce how relevant stakeholders are involved in mainstreaming biodiversity.

21. Relevant tools and case studies on how to mainstream biodiversity into relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral strategies, plans and programmes will be introduced. Working in small groups, participants will have the opportunity to examine the various tools and approaches.

ITEM 6. COMMUNICATION AND REPORTING

22. Clearly communicating the importance of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and enhancing public education and awareness of these strategies and action plans, are very important for mobilizing public support for and public participation in their development, implementation and updating as well as mainstreaming biodiversity into relevant sectors. And, of course, reviewing and reporting on the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans are also important for assessing the effectiveness of the strategies and, on that basis, updating NBSAPs and further enhancing the implementation of NBSAPs.

23. Under this item, countries are invited to share their plans for and approaches to communicating NBSAPs and enhancing public awareness of and participation in the development, implementation and updating of NBSAPs. Workshop participants will hear a few presentations on the role of the Clearing-House Mechanism in supporting the development, implementation and updating of NBSAPs as well as communicating NBSAPs.

24. The Secretariat will introduce the guidelines for the fourth national report, which focus on implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and progress towards the 2010 Biodiversity Target. The Secretariat will also introduce a reference manual developed to assist with the preparation of the fourth national report. Support from GEF for the fourth national reports will be outlined.

ITEM 7. THE WAY FORWARD: NEXT STEPS IN IMPLEMENTING AND UPDATING NBSAPS AND ON MAINSTREAMING OF BIODIVERSITY

25. Building upon work in earlier sessions, workshop participants will examine ways forward and key next steps for implementing and updating NBSAPs and mainstreaming biodiversity in national strategies and planning processes. Workshop participants will be divided into several groups to discuss about ways forward. A panel will be selected to lead discussions in plenary.

ITEM 8. CONSIDERATION OF THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE WORKSHOP

26. The Workshop will consider the conclusions of the workshop and possible inputs that could be provided to the in-depth review of goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting (19-31 May 2008, Bonn, Germany).

ITEM 9. CLOSURE OF THE WORKSHOP

27. The Workshop is expected to close at approximately 17:30 on Thursday, 27 March 2008.

*Annex I***PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK****MONDAY, 24 MARCH 2008**

Workshop on the Evaluation of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Findings and Human Well-Being	
8:30 – 9:00	OPENING Opening Remarks: José Sarukhán (National Coordinator, CONABIO) Juan Elvira Quesada (Minister of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT), Mexico) Representative from the Department of Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA, UK)
9:00 – 9:45	SESSION I: INTRODUCTION TO THE MILLENNIUM ECOSYSTEM ASSESSMENT KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS: The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment: linking ecosystem services and social welfare (Rosamunde Almond, WCMC/UNEP)
9:45 – 10:15	The 2010 Target and National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (David Cooper, SCBD)
10:15 – 11:00	Session of questions from participants
11:00 – 11:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:15 – 12:00	SESSION II: SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND SCALES The importance of using the right information for the right scale (Jorge Soberón, Compiler in the Second Biodiversity Country Study of Mexico)
12:00 – 12:30	Session of questions from participants
12:30 – 13:30	SESSION III: SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION AND DECISION-MAKING What Technical-Scientific information is available and how to use it for decision- and policy-making? (José Sarukhán, CONABIO)
13:30-14:00	Session of questions from participants
14:00 – 15:30	<i>Lunch</i>
15:30 – 16:15	SESSION IV: USING THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION TO STRENGTHEN DECISIONS NATIONAL LEVEL Trends of Change and Conservation of Biodiversity in Mexico (Rodolfo Dirzo, Compiler in Second Biodiversity Country Study of Mexico)
16:15 – 16:45	Session of questions from participants
16:45 – 17:00	<i>Coffee Break</i>

	SESSION IV: USING THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION TO STRENGTHEN DECISIONS (cont.) LOCAL LEVEL
17:00 – 17:30	State Strategy of Michoacán (Laura Villaseñor, Biodiversity State Government of Michoacán)
17:30- 18:15	(Alejandro Méndez, Secretary of Environment of the State of Michoacán) (Ejido Noh-Bec, Quintana Roo, Rodolfo Llovera Sosa President)
18:15 – 18:45	Session of questions from participants
19:00	<i>Reception</i>

TUESDAY, 25 MARCH 2008

9:00 – 9:45	SESSION V: DEVELOPING POLICIES TO SUSTAIN ECOSYSTEM SERVICES Use and Management of Biodiversity and its Environmental Services (Julia Carabias, Compiler in the Second Biodiversity Country Study of Mexico)
9:45 – 10:15	Session of questions from participants
10:15 – 11:00	SESSION V: DEVELOPING POLICIES TO SUSTAIN ECOSYSTEM SERVICES (cont.) Future scenarios for the elaboration of public policies that encompass ecosystem services (Exequiel Ezcurra, Compiler in the Second Biodiversity Country Study of Mexico)
11:00 – 11:30	Session of questions from participants
11:30 – 11.45	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11:45 – 13:30	WORKING GROUPS SESSION I 3 GROUPS WORKING SIMULTANEOUSLY Set of questions I (OBSTACLES)
13:30 – 15:00	<i>Lunch</i>
15:00 – 16:30	WORKING GROUPS SESSION II 3 GROUPS WORKING SIMULTANEOUSLY Set of questions II (NEEDS)
16:30 – 16:45	<i>Coffee Break</i>
16:45 – 17:30	SESSION VI: CONCLUSIONS
17:30 – 18:00	CLOSING REMARKS Giles Paxman (Ambassador of the United Kingdom in Mexico) José Sarukhán (National Coordinator of CONABIO)

WEDNESDAY, 26 MARCH 2008

CBD Capacity-Building Workshop for Central America on National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans and Mainstreaming Of Biodiversity		
0900 - 1000	ITEM 1 ITEM 2	Opening of the workshop, Overview of the objectives and programme for the workshop Opening Statements (Mexico, SCBD) Self-introduction of Participants Introduction (SCBD) Discussion
1000 - 1030		<i>Coffee break</i>
1030 - 1230	ITEM 3 ITEM 4	Status of development & implementation of NBSAPs in the region Updating and improving NBSAPs National perspectives (country presentations) Discussion
1230 - 1400		<i>Lunch break</i>
1400 - 1530		National perspectives (country presentations continued) Sub-national perspectives Regional Perspectives
1530 - 1600		<i>Tea break</i>
1600 - 1800		Analysis and Discussion

THURSDAY, 27 MARCH 2008

0830 - 1030	ITEM 5	Integrating biodiversity into sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies National perspectives (country presentations) Discussion
1030 - 1100		<i>Coffee break</i>
1100 - 1200	ITEM 5	Integrating biodiversity into sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies (cont.) Tools and approaches for integrating biodiversity into sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies Discussion
1200 - 1330		<i>Lunch break</i>
1330 - 1500	ITEM 6 ITEM 7	Communicating and Reporting on NBSAPs The Fourth National Reports (SCBD) Discussion The way forward: next steps in implementing and updating NBSAPs and on mainstreaming of biodiversity Upcoming events under the Convention (SCBD) Panel discussion
1500 - 1530		<i>Tea break</i>
1530 - 1630	ITEM 8 ITEM 9	Consideration of the Conclusions of the Workshop Closing of the Workshop

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Document Title
UNEP/CBD/NBSAP/CBW-CAM/1/1	Provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/NBSAP/CBW-CAM/1/1/Add.1	Annotations to the provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/NBSAP/CBW-CAM/1/2	Status and implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans
UNEP/CBD/NBSAP/CBW-CAM/1/3	Updating NBSAPs, mainstreaming biodiversity, communication and reporting.
Information and background documents (previously available)	
UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/2/2	Status of implementation of goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan focussing on implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and availability of financial resources -- an overview
UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/2/2/Add.1	Synthesis and analysis of obstacles to implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, lessons learned from the review, effectiveness of policy instruments and strategic priorities for action
UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/2/INF/1 (English only)	Updated synthesis of information contained in third national reports
UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/2/INF/2 (English only)	Regional preparatory meetings on implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans and mainstreaming biodiversity
UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/2/INF/9 (English only)	National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans: A Meta-Analysis of Earlier Review
UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/2/INF/10 (English only)	Review of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans, Biodiversity Mainstreaming and Implementation of the Convention: A Bibliography
Decision VIII/8	Implementation of the Convention and its Strategic Plan
Decision VIII/9	Implications of the findings of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment
WGRI Recommendation 2/1	Implementation of goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan

CBD Training Modules (English only)

A-1. Guide to the Convention on Biological Diversity

A-2. Role of the CBD National Focal Point

A-3. An Introduction to National Reporting

B-1. An Introduction to National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans

B-2. How to prepare and update a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

B-3. Mainstreaming biodiversity into sectoral and cross-sectoral strategies, plans and programmes

B-4. Setting national biodiversity targets, making use of the CBD framework for the 2010 biodiversity target

B-5. Ensuring stakeholder engagement in the development, implementation and updating of NBSAPs

B-6. Getting political support for the NBSAP and financing its implementation

B-7. Communication Strategy for NBSAPs

Other Resources:

Guidelines for the fourth national reports Draft reference manual for preparing the fourth national reports

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*Annex III***PREPARATION FOR THE CAPACITY-BUILDING WORKSHOPS**

As was indicated in the official notification for the workshop available at <http://www.cbd.int/nbsap/workshops.shtml>, participants nominated by Parties are requested to prepare for the workshop in a number of ways.

Firstly, we hope that you will prepare some information on your country's NBSAP that you will be able to share with fellow participants within the context of workshop discussion sessions. Please note that the voluntary guidelines for review of NBSAPs annexed to Decision VIII/8 are being used as a tool in preparing for the workshop, and can be found at <http://www.cbd.int/convention/decisions.shtml?m=COP-08&id=11020&lg=0>. Please also bring with you one or two copies of the NBSAP itself. If you are planning to make a presentation on your NBSAP (using, for example, PowerPoint), please try to limit your presentation to 5-10 slides focussing on (i) description of the NBSAP; (ii) preparatory process/stakeholder involvement; (iii) examples of achievements in implementation; (iv) how the NBSAP is related to mainstreaming and planning processes; (v) national targets included in the NBSAP; and (v) evaluation and updating of the NBSAP.

Secondly, it would be extremely useful if you could send to us (as electronic files, web addresses, or by mail to the address below) any useful documents prepared by your country in relation to the NBSAP and its implementation. This might include information on tools and guidelines for NBSAP implementation, reviews or progress reports generated at the national level on the NBSAP for purposes of monitoring and evaluation, communication strategies, and case studies illustrating how biodiversity has been integrated into economic sectors and national planning processes. We will be drawing on these national examples and experiences throughout the workshop, and will incorporate information on approaches and best practices into the Clearing-House Mechanism.

Thirdly, participants are encouraged to develop a poster on their NBSAP and the linkage to the 2010 Biodiversity Target. An online poster generation tool has been developed by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) that enables users to easily create posters from their own computer. These posters will offer a further opportunity to share national experiences in implementing the Convention through NBSAPs at the workshop. The posters will be incorporated into a poster session on this same subject that is being planned for the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to be held in May 2008 in Bonn, Germany. The guidelines for developing posters using the online tool are available at <http://www.cbd.int/meetings/wgri-02/poster-guidelines.shtml>. A stand-alone version on CD-ROM was distributed at SBSTTA-13 in Rome. Posters presented at the second meeting of the Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention, which took place in July 2007 in Paris, can be viewed at: <http://www.cbd.int/meetings/wgri-02/poster-session.shtml>.
