



Convention on Biological Diversity

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WORKSHOP FOR THE PACIFIC COUNTRIES ON THE
PREPARATION OF THE FOURTH NATIONAL
REPORT UNDER THE CONVENTION ON
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
Apia, Samoa, 19-22 April 2010

REPORT OF THE WORKSHOP

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Workshop for the Pacific Countries on the Preparation of the Fourth National Report under the Convention on Biological Diversity was held from 19 to 22 April in Apia, Samoa. It was organized with the generous support of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP-GEF) and the Government of Japan as well as the support of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP).

2. The Workshop was organized in response to a request contained in paragraph 18 (e) of decision VIII/14 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, adopted at its eighth meeting, held in Curitiba, Brazil, from 20 to 31 March 2006. It is also a part of a medium-sized project funded by the Global Environment Facility to support eligible countries in undertaking assessments of progress towards the 2010 biodiversity target and the preparation of their fourth national report under the Convention on Biological Diversity.

3. This workshop was the second of a series of regional workshops that are being organized in 2010 to facilitate the preparation of the fourth national report in time for consideration by the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in Nagoya, Japan in October 2010. The workshop aims to strengthen the capacities of countries for monitoring, reviewing and reporting on the implementation of the Convention, including progress towards the 2010 target and the goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan of the Convention.

4. The workshop was attended by government nominees from Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu. Australia, Asian Institute of Technology, Global Islands Partnership, IUCN Oceania Office and SPREP sent resource persons to this workshop.

5. The workshop proceeded in accordance with the following agenda:

1. Opening of the workshop and organizational matters.

2. Overview of the objectives and programme for the workshop/the process and status of preparing the fourth national reports.
3. Preparation of the chapters of the fourth national report:
 - (a) Chapter I: Assessing the status and trends of, and threats to biodiversity;
 - (b) Chapter II: Implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
 - (c) Chapter III: sectoral and cross-sectoral integration of biodiversity;
 - (d) Chapter IV and Appendix III: Assessing progress towards the 2010 biodiversity target and goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan as well as the target in the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation and the programme of work on protected areas.
4. Preparation of the executive summary.
5. Next steps: finalization of the fourth national report, and key events in 2010, including using the fourth national report as a communication tool for the International Year of Biodiversity in 2010.
6. Conclusions from the workshop.
7. Closure of the workshop.

6. The main body of this report provides a summary of the proceedings of the Workshop. The conclusions and recommendations from the workshop are contained in section II below. Presentations made at the workshop can be found on the Convention's website at <https://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=4NRCBW-PAC-01>.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE WORKSHOP AND ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

7. The workshop was opened by a prayer chaired by Rev. Lotu Uele, EFKS, Vaiala, by putting the environmental issues in a spiritual context, highlighting that human beings are facing unprecedented environmental challenges such as climate change.

8. Mr. David Sheppard, Director of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), welcomed participants and highlighted the importance of this workshop while in the Pacific countries are celebrating the International Year of Biodiversity under the theme "Value Island Biodiversity-It's Our Life". He informed that SPREP together with partners had developed an Action Strategy for the Year of Biodiversity and encouraged countries in the region to contribute to implementation of the strategy. He also informed that SPREP is putting more resources to help countries in the region address biodiversity issues. While noting biodiversity challenges faced by the region, he called upon countries to scale up responses to biodiversity conservation. Specifically he made four specific suggestions, namely to improve environmental governance, to develop more effective links between climate change and biodiversity, to develop and encourage Pacific solutions to Pacific problems and to make better links between biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. He concluded by calling upon countries, people and communities in the region to use the International Year of Biodiversity as an opportunity to promote the importance of biodiversity for the region and commit to work towards conserving biodiversity.

9. Honourable Faumuina Tiatia Liuga, Minister of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Samoa, while welcoming participants to Samoa, began by calling upon the Pacific countries to sign on the Copenhagen Call to address the biggest challenge faced by the region and the world-climate change. He stressed the inter-linkages of addressing climate change and biodiversity issues. He urged the Pacific countries to prepare and submit the fourth national report of the CBD to COP 10 in Nagoya, Japan as soon as possible so that the world will know the efforts Pacific countries have been making and the support needed. He stressed that preparing this report is particularly important for COP 10 in which new goals and targets for 2020 will be adopted, as well as while we are celebrating the International Year of Biodiversity.

10. Mr. Lijie Cai, National Reports Programme Officer, Implementation and Technical Support/Outreach and Major Groups (ITS/OMG), from the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, delivered an opening statement on behalf of Mr. Ahmed Djoghlaif, the Executive Secretary of the Convention. He began by thanking Samoa and SPREP for hosting this workshop. He also expressed appreciation to UNEP and Japan for their financial support to this workshop. While indicating full support to main points in the speeches of Minister Liuga and Dr. David Sheppard, he highlighted Samoa's efforts in the conservation of natural and environmental resources and congratulated Samoa for having prepared a good fourth national report to the CBD. While highlighting the fact that biodiversity loss is still continuing at an alarming rate and consequences that will be brought to human beings particularly the poor as well as that the 2010 target may be missed, he stressed that more efforts would be needed by all to address these challenges. He said that the Year of 2010, the International Year of Biodiversity, is a year of opportunity to mobilize support from all walks of society to biodiversity considering that the United Nations General Assembly will hold the first ever summit devoted to biodiversity attended by heads of state or government in September this year. He also emphasized that the Nagoya Conference of the Parties would be a landmark meeting considering that new goals and targets for 2020 would be adopted. To do all this, he stressed the importance for all countries to submit the fourth national reports to allow for a comprehensive review of progress towards the 2010 target. He also emphasized the importance of reporting as a tool for further planning and communications among others. He concluded in an optimistic note by highlighting many opportunities to do more about biodiversity, despite consequences brought by the biodiversity crisis.

ITEM 2. OVERVIEW OF THE OBJECTIVES AND PROGRAMME FOR THE WORKSHOP/PROCESS AND STATUS OF PREPARING THE FOURTH NATIONAL REPORT

11. At the outset, each participant was asked to write down their expectations for the Workshop. The expectations included:

- (a) To have a clear guidance on the process of the preparation of the fourth national report based on practical lessons from other countries;
- (b) To better understand the basic elements and details for each of the chapters so that the national reports could be prepared more efficiently;
- (c) To learn about the methods and approaches employed for assessing implementation of NBSAPs and progress towards the 2010 target;
- (d) To share experiences and good practices in the preparation of national reports;
- (e) To get feedback on the strengths and areas in need of improvement in the draft reports.

12. Participants also introduced the status of their preparation of the report and challenges faced in the process. Four participating countries namely Fiji, Palau, Papua New Guinea and Tonga had prepared their draft reports and four other countries have started the process however draft reports are not ready. They highlighted lack of data and information, coordination with relevant departments and lack of expertise to work on the report as key challenges.

13. A representative of the Secretariat then briefly introduced the workshop programme, emphasizing that the workshop would employ several modalities, including introducing relevant guidelines and tools, country presentations, plenary and group discussions and exercises, and work in small groups and individually to improve draft reports or chapters prepared by participating countries, with the support of the Secretariat and resource persons.

14. A representative of the Secretariat then introduced the guidelines for the fourth national report. He began by highlighting that national reporting is the obligation under Article 26 of the Convention for all countries. He emphasized that national reports should not only cover measures taken to implement the Convention but also need to assess their effectiveness in achieving the objectives of the Convention. He stressed that national reports are very important to ensure that COP will provide proper guidance to national implementation and the proper functioning of the Convention. He emphasized that the fourth national report would be needed for reviewing progress towards the 2010 target and in updating the Strategic Plan as well as development of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook. At national level, he said that preparing this report would help countries identify progress and gaps and use it as a tool for planning and communication, particularly in the International Year of Biodiversity. In terms of the format and focus for the fourth national report, he said that, different from previous national reports, the fourth national report should be written primarily in narrative and focus on outcomes and impacts of actions and highlight success stories as well as challenges encountered. Speaking on the structure of the fourth national report, he elaborated the inter-linkages among the four main chapters. With regards to the fourth chapter it was noted that countries should draw together all key findings from the first three chapters when analyzing progress towards the 2010 target. Finally he introduced the assistance and support countries could get when preparing their fourth national report, including tools developed by the Secretariat and its partners for assisting countries in the preparation of the fourth national report.

15. Samoa and Australia introduced their processes of preparing the fourth national report. In preparing its report, Samoa highlighted the importance of involving various stakeholders including various government departments and NGOs. In doing so, Samoa held stakeholder workshops and circulated draft reports to solicit inputs and comments from various stakeholders. Australia informed that it began the process by developing timelines and identifying relevant stakeholders including NGOs. In terms of coordination, a Biodiversity Steering Committee was used as a mechanism for the preparation of the fourth national report. To solicit inputs from relevant government departments and other stakeholders, information templates related to relevant sections of the report had been prepared and sent to them for inputs and comments. Mechanisms, such as sending letters, making phone calls and face-to-face discussions, were used to engage relevant stakeholders. Meeting deadlines while addressing other priorities in the process and timely receipt of inputs from relevant stakeholders were highlighted as key challenges encountered in the process.

16. In the question-and-answer session following the introductions by Samoa and Australia, a few participants raised the questions on how to engage relevant government departments noting that most of them lack interest in contributing to the report. It was suggested that in addition to official channels, person-to-person relation be fostered to get inputs by informal channels. It was also suggested that as Australia did, relevant information could be compiled in advance for comments by relevant departments.

ITEM 3. PREPARATION OF THE REPORT

A. *Chapter I: Assessing status and trends of, and major threats to biodiversity*

17. A resource person introduced the guidelines for preparing this chapter. First, she provided overall suggestions, which included presenting a succinct overview of the status and trends of and major threats to biodiversity. The possibility of using time series data to analyse trends and changes in biodiversity, using the results of monitoring and indicators, analyzing key threats to biodiversity and the implications of these threats for biodiversity and human well-being, was noted. It was also suggested that some countries may wish to use graphics, charts and other tools to better illustrate the status and trends of biodiversity. She proposed key information to be included in the reports, as requested in the guidelines, and a possible structure for chapter I. However it was emphasized that countries are flexible to present biodiversity status, trends and threats in a manner which is appropriate and relevant to their national circumstances. She concluded by providing key sources of information that countries may use in preparing chapter I.

18. Following the presentation, the Secretariat introduced the Millennium Assessments framework for threat analysis. Then participants worked in two groups on threat analysis, which could be used directly in chapter I.

19. Kiribati presented its draft of chapter I. The chapter started with an overview of the country's unique biodiversity and ecosystems, highlighting the fact that the country has more complicated marine ecosystems. Following that an analysis of the status and trends of some biodiversity components was provided, noting that biodiversity in the country is seriously endangered. Threats to biodiversity identified include population growth, overexploitation of natural resources, invasive species and climate change. She noted the crucial importance of limited biodiversity for the country's economic and social development as well as daily needs of the people. The chapter also provided some actions to address some threats and changes in status and trends.

20. IUCN Oceania Office shared key findings from the IUCN Red List related to the Pacific region as well as country files prepared by IUCN related to the status and trends of biodiversity in the Pacific countries.

B. *Chapter II: implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans*

21. A representative of the Secretariat introduced the guidelines for preparing chapter II. At the outset, he began with overall suggestions, including focusing on the outcomes and impacts of the actions taken to implement NBSAP and underlined the need to analyse the effectiveness of the strategy, particularly in light of the changes in biodiversity conditions and the major threats to biodiversity identified in chapter I. He highlighted the importance and need to use successful cases or stories to illustrate the outcomes and impacts of implementation where results of systematic monitoring of implementation of NBSAP are lacking. He suggested that countries analyze key challenges encountered in the implementation of NBSAP. He proposed key information to be included as requested in the guidelines, including financing implementation of NBSAP, and a possible structure for this chapter while emphasizing that countries are flexible to present their reviews and analyses. He also said that countries without an NBSAP in place could report on the status of NBSAP development and the implementation of related strategies and plans. Finally he cited a few important sources of information that countries may wish to use when preparing this chapter. He also suggested that countries use a table to highlight actions taken to implement goals and objectives in NBSAPs and outcomes achieved.

22. In the question-and-answer session that followed, some participants pointed to lack of monitoring related to the implementation of their NBSAPs as well as to a lack of relevant indicators and that both of

these issues posed difficulties in analyzing the outcomes, impacts and effectiveness of their national strategies. It was suggested that cases and results of projects could be used to illustrate the outcomes and impacts of implementation if a comprehensive review is lacking due to lack of monitoring. Some participants also pointed to the difficulty in assessing the effectiveness of NBSAP considering that most countries in this region have not reviewed their NBSAPs. It was suggested that this reporting process could provide an opportunity for such assessment and results of this initial review could provide a basis for further review at a later stage.

23. Following the question-and-answer session, Fiji presented its draft chapter II. She said that Fiji reviewed its NBSAP because national priorities were not clear, coordination of implementation was lacking and appropriate mechanism was not in place to track and assess implementation. To undertake this review, workshops and individual visits were arranged to re-engage stakeholders and make NBSAP a more working document and easier for implementation. She informed that a results-based framework had been developed for monitoring implementation of NBSAP and priorities identified for 2010 through workshops involving various stakeholders. For monitoring, committees were established for each thematic area in NBSAP. Key findings of the review include the need for governments and non-governmental agencies to work together, identification of gaps that need to be addressed and establishment of mechanisms for better coordination. She informed that the chapter would include a few cases on implementation of some programs and impacts generated. Australia also shared which plan and strategy has been reviewed while preparing Chapter II.

24. IUCN Oceania Office also shared developments in the Pacific Nature Conservation Roundtable which provides support to development and implementation of NBSAPs in the Pacific countries.

C. Chapter III: sectoral and cross-sectoral integration of biodiversity

25. A resource person introduced the guidelines for preparing this chapter. The overall suggestions she presented included involving various stakeholders in the preparation, focusing on mechanisms and outcomes of integration as well as elaborating whether biodiversity has been included in the implementation of relevant sectoral strategies, plans and broader strategies such as those for poverty reduction and sustainable development. In addition countries were encouraged to report on whether any policy changes, including incentives, have been introduced to promote biodiversity conservation and sustainable use and whether biodiversity has been included in environmental impact assessments and strategic environmental assessments and whether the ecosystem approach is being applied. It was noted that synergies in the implementation of relevant conventions should also be included as part of chapter III. Participants were encouraged to go beyond a list of relevant strategies and plans and to use successful cases and stories to demonstrate outcomes and impacts of integration. Countries could report on whether biodiversity has been considered in those internationally-supported development cooperation programmes and projects.

26. In the question-and-answer session, a number of countries underlined the difficulties faced in reporting on mainstreaming, particularly when reporting on outcomes and impacts and identifying cases. Questions were raised concerning application of the ecosystem approach and use of economic evaluation. For the latter, it was suggested that some simple math or statistical methods could be used for evaluation where comprehensive evaluation using complicated methods seems to be difficult at this stage.

27. Samoa and Tonga presented their draft chapter III. Samoa stressed the need for stakeholder engagement and consultation with various departments while preparing this chapter. Samoa reviewed policies adopted by all relevant sectors and found that biodiversity is well integrated in policies and laws of these sectors, with more integration at project level than at policy level in some sectors. It was highlighted that a big achievement in mainstreaming is that Samoa's Sustainable Development Strategy has considered biodiversity. In preparing this chapter, Tonga reviewed and assessed actions taken by all

relevant sectors to implement NBSAPs, noting that overall performance was not satisfactory. The main reasons for this were unclear direction from NBSAP to each sector, different responsibilities for different sectors, lack of coordination and disruption caused by government restructuring. Meanwhile she noted that civil society and the private sector are doing better in biodiversity integration. She indicated that the situation might improve as a super ministry has been established to address most environmental issues including biodiversity.

28. Following questions and answers related to the country presentations, one participant asked a question about the meaning of “mainstreaming”. One resource person provided a simple explanation that mainstreaming means making biodiversity everyone’s business. Another resource person elaborated a bit more by saying that considering that no single actor can address biodiversity issues alone and all relevant actors or players that impact biodiversity must be brought together in concerted efforts to protect biodiversity, so “mainstreaming” basically requires all relevant sectors and cross-sectoral departments to take biodiversity issues into consideration in their relevant strategies, policies and programmes and take actions accordingly to address biodiversity issues in their fields.

29. Chapter III in Australia’s fourth national report was introduced as an example where initiatives undertaken by various sectors to consider biodiversity in their strategies and policies were introduced and a number of cases in this regard were provided.

D. Chapter IV and appendix III: assessing progress towards the 2010 target and goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan as well as targets contained in the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation and the programme of work on protected areas

30. A representative of the Secretariat presented suggestions for preparing chapter IV. He began by emphasizing that this chapter is the most important and the most difficult part of the report. He suggested that countries draw upon all the important findings from the first three chapters and try to analyse how the actions taken have contributed to the progress towards the 2010 target and the Strategic Plan. Countries were encouraged to use the framework of goals and targets as well as a set of indicators adopted for measuring progress towards the 2010 target, including nationally developed indicators. It was suggested that countries begin by reporting on whether any national targets have been adopted and then focus on actions taken to achieve these targets, including outcomes and results achieved as well as challenges encountered. For the latter, he suggested successful cases and stories be used to illustrate progress. Finally he underlined the need for countries to undertake overall assessment of the implementation of the Convention by highlighting those areas where the greatest success has been achieved and where progress is lacking. It was also suggested that future priorities to address these gaps could be identified. He underlined the importance of using indicators to measure progress, while also pointing to various difficulties in doing so. Some suggested using various symbols such as maple leaves used by Canada to illustrate progress.

31. He showed as an example Chapter IV prepared by the United Kingdom which consists of three parts:

(a) Chapter IV-A is an assessment of progress towards the 2010 target. For this, the United Kingdom has used a table showing the global goals, its contribution and where relevant, national targets. The United Kingdom indicators have been mapped onto this framework, and a summary statement of progress made;

(b) Chapter IV-B is an assessment of progress towards achieving the goals and targets of the strategic plan under the Convention on Biological Diversity. The United Kingdom has provided summary text for each goal, cross referencing to chapters I-III as appropriate, and using evidence from the indicators.

(c) Chapter IV-C is a summary of conclusions for the report. The United Kingdom has used this to make a short statement about its NBSAP, to give an overview of all the biodiversity indicators, and to suggest future priorities for the Convention.

32. Palau presented its draft chapter IV and key findings. The representative of Palau began by showing that biodiversity is put in the national telephone directory which indicates the importance of communication for biodiversity. He presented key measures taken to achieve the 2010 target, particularly targets 1.1 and 1.2, including establishment of a protected areas as early as in 1956, implementation of the Micronesia Challenge and declaration of a Shark Sanctuary. He also shared threats to biodiversity in Palau and relevant strategies and action plans. He concluded by highlighting a green revolution launched in the country and the importance of involving local communities and the use of traditional knowledge for biodiversity conservation.

33. Under this agenda item, participants were asked to work in two groups to identify signs of progress towards the 2010 target, using the framework of goals and targets adopted in decision VIII/15. Results of one group discussion are presented in annex II.

34. The Secretariat also introduced suggestions for preparation of appendix III on the implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation and the programme of work on protected areas. He stressed that this appendix could cover information not covered in the four main chapters and countries could follow a similar analytical approach employed in chapter IV. It was also emphasized that countries should focus on those targets of national relevance or importance. In this appendix, countries could focus on national targets established, actions taken to achieve these targets and outcomes achieved as well as challenges encountered.

ITEM 4. PREPARATION OF THE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

35. A representative of the Secretariat introduced how to write an executive summary and began by noting that the executive summary is one of the most important parts of the report as it allows the reader to mentally prepare for the information that will follow and it is often the most read section of the report. Key information to be included in the executive summary, such as main messages, important facts, necessary background information and major conclusions from the report, was noted. It was stressed that the executive summary should not be an introduction or outline of the report but rather a concise synthesis of the information contained in each chapter of the report. Suggestions on how to prepare the executive summary, such as the use of bullet points and the use of key statements, were provided.

36. Following questions and answers, participants were asked to work individually on points that may go to the executive summary. A proposed outline of the executive summary is contained in annex III.

37. After all the presentations related to each chapter, country presentations as well as group discussions or exercises, countries worked individually with the Secretariat and resource persons to improve draft reports or chapters they had prepared. To help participating countries know better what possible elements could be included in the report, an outline was proposed to allow countries to adjust according to their national circumstances. The proposed outline is contained in annex IV.

ITEM 5. NEXT STEPS: FINALIZATION OF THE FOURTH NATIONAL REPORT, AND WAYS FORWARD LEADING TO 2010, INCLUDING USING THE FOURTH NATIONAL REPORT AS A COMMUNICATION TOOL FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF BIODIVERSITY IN 2010

38. SPREP introduced outcomes of an MEA Conference for the Pacific held in November 2009 as well as the results of a project on harmonizing reporting to different biodiversity-related conventions for the Pacific countries, which is supported by Australia and UNEP-WCMC. In doing the latter, he highlighted challenges faced by countries in the region in reporting to a number of related conventions as well as opportunities. He informed that the project had generated positive results based on trials at country level and after having sought inputs and comments from various MEA Secretariats. It was suggested that SPREP work closely with UNEP-WCMC to ensure that information and databases will be developed consistent with harmonized reporting. Meanwhile a realistic and practical approach should be taken considering that different conventions may have different needs for information and different review bodies. The best option may be (a) to a core of common data/information across MEAs; (b) elements specific to each Convention. The aim is to minimize reporting requirements and to improve the usefulness of data. It was suggested that as next step this issue could be raised again at the SPREP Ministerial Meeting in 2010 as well as at upcoming tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity either as part of its agenda or through a joint side event, and at other Conventions.

39. SPREP also provided an update on the negotiation of an international regime on ABS and regional initiatives for celebration of the International Year of Biodiversity including CEPA-related activities. While providing some analysis of the outcomes of a recent meeting of ABS WG 9 and recalling some issues emerging from the negotiation process over years, he suggested that countries in the region provide inputs to the final negotiation process and make the Pacific voices heard at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

40. Countries also shared their plans and activities for celebration of the IYB. The Secretariat and SPREP indicated that they would provide as much support as possible to countries in the region.

41. A representative from the Global Islands Partnership briefly introduced the partnerships and relevant work undertaken so far. She highlighted the importance of the fourth national reports from countries in the region for an in-depth review of the CBD programme of work on island biodiversity at the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 11 in 2012).

42. A representative of the Secretariat presented key events in 2010 and in so doing highlighted that assessment of progress towards the 2010 target, adoption of a new Strategic Plan and ABS negotiation would be three key agenda items for COP 10. He also reviewed the global status of NBSAPs and the state of and pressures on some biodiversity components and some responses taken, noting that responses are growing though pressures are increasing. He also briefly introduced the process of development of the new Strategic Plan for 2020 as well as some goals and targets likely to be included. Finally he showed key messages for the International Year of Biodiversity. He also encouraged countries to use the fourth national reports as a communication tool for IYB.

43. Each participating country presented their plans to finalize their fourth national reports. The schedules provided by participating countries are summarized in annex V. The Secretariat encouraged countries to share their advanced drafts while submitting them for domestic approval.

ITEM 6. CONCLUSIONS OR RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE WORKSHOP

44. The workshop participants reviewed and agreed on the conclusions from this workshop. The conclusions are contained in section II below.

ITEM 7. CLOSURE OF THE WORKSHOP

45. The workshop was closed around 11:30 am on 22 April 2010, with closing remarks by SPREP and SCBD. It was emphasized that countries need to maintain momentum to complete their reports as early as possible. Both the Secretariat and SPREP indicated that support would continue to be provided to countries in the region to this end. After the closing, a field trip was arranged for participants by the Samoan Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment.

II. CONCLUSIONS OF THE WORKSHOP

A. *General comments on process*

46. The process for preparing the national report may differ from one country to another however the most essential point is to ensure the report is owned by the countries. National reports are important for making biodiversity a national issue and the national reports should be used as a planning and communication tool and not as a just a report to COP to meet international obligations.

47. Many countries face similar obstacles and challenges when preparing their national reports, such as lack of financial, human and technical resources, lack of adequate data and information and lack of coordination among relevant government departments.

48. It is important to involve as many stakeholders as possible including non-governmental organizations in the process. The difficulty of getting relevant data and information from relevant government departments and institutions should be addressed through increased communications, meetings, consensus building and better coordination.

49. Countries should prepare and finalize the reports as early as possible for consideration by the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to enable it to adopt a new Strategic Plan of the Convention based on reviewing of progress towards the 2010 target.

50. Sharing of data and information within the countries and at regional and global level should be encouraged to ensure that countries could include relevant information in national reports.

B. *General comments on content*

51. There is need to focus the national reports on outcomes and impacts – direct relationship to improvement of ecology and livelihoods. There is a need to provide successful stories or cases to illustrate the outcomes and impacts, which are particularly important in the absence of assessment of overall progress.

52. Countries are encouraged to provide more analysis than description, particularly outcomes and impacts.

53. Countries are encouraged to use more graphics, pictures and tables to highlight key findings from each chapter or appendix.

54. Indicators can reflect qualitative assessments, in the absence of quantitative data, and their use in all chapters or appendices are encouraged.

C. Suggestions for improving individual chapters (based on plenary and group discussions)

Chapter I

55. In this chapter, countries are encouraged to provide a succinct analysis of status and trends of biodiversity components, using as much information and data as possible, particularly some existing and ongoing assessments made at different levels. In doing so, countries are encouraged to use graphics and figures for analysis of trends and threats, such as graphic used for threat analysis in the Millennium Ecosystems Assessment. It helps the reader get an overview of threats affecting biodiversity and in designing responses. It can draw upon both data and qualitative information (such as expert opinion) and can be adapted to country-specific circumstances.

56. This chapter should analyze both direct and indirect threats and implications of changes in biodiversity for human well-being, social and economic development. This helps with assessment of the effectiveness of NBSAPs or other similar strategies and plans in chapter II.

57. This chapter should focus on analysis of status, trends and threats rather than on actions taken to address changes in status and trends and threats, which should be focus of chapters II and III.

Chapter II

58. No matter what status of NBSAP, countries should report on all relevant implementation activities, both of NBSAPs and of other similar strategies, plans, programmes and projects.

59. Use of matrix is recommended for highlighting actions taken to implement the national biodiversity and action plan and progress realized, highlighting key activities and outcomes (see the voluntary guidelines for reviewing NBSAPs contained in annex to decision XIII/8).

60. Countries are encouraged to use cases and success stories from various levels to demonstrate outcomes of implementation of NBSAPs particularly where results of systematic monitoring of implementation of NBSAP are lacking.

61. This chapter should include both (a) assessment of implementation of the NBSAP, and (b) assessment of effectiveness of the NBSAP – i.e. do the actions address the threats identified in Chapter I. It is realized that national strategies not worth much unless they address the threats to biodiversity.

Chapter III

62. This chapter should go beyond listing all relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral strategies, plans and programmes. Instead this chapter should include more information about how each sector has considered biodiversity in their respective strategies, policies, plans and programmes as well as in their actual implementation. To ensure that this chapter reflects comprehensively actions by relevant sectors, it is also important to solicit inputs and comments from all the relevant sectors and ministries. In doing so, it may be useful to develop information template and send it to relevant departments and request them to provide detailed, relevant information.

63. This chapter should focus on the mechanisms established and the outcomes achieved to make mainstreaming happen. It is important to provide cases or successful stories to demonstrate how mainstreaming has generated positive impacts on biodiversity.

64. It is important to include local initiatives and voluntary actions by various communities in this chapter considering that in this region many lands are owned individually rather than by governments.

65. Countries are encouraged to report on any tools they use for mainstreaming, not limited to application of the ecosystem approach, undertaking biodiversity-inclusive EIA and SEA as well as evaluation of the economic and other values of biodiversity and ecosystem services. Some countries may use tools such as integrated coastal and marine management.

Chapter IV

66. It is very important to link findings from the first three chapters with assessment of progress towards the 2010 target, by analysing to what extent national actions described or analysed in the first three chapters have contributed to achieving various goals and targets contained in the 2010 target framework. Use of matrix such as that used in chapter IV of the United Kingdom and other reports is encouraged, highlighting national targets established, national actions taken and outcomes achieved as well as indicators used for assessment if any. Countries are encouraged to assess levels of progress of individual goals and targets though overall the 2010 target is not achieved. Interesting marks could be used for overall assessment of progress in achieving each individual target.

67. Countries are encouraged to provide cases to demonstrate progress towards the 2010 target, which could provide convincing evidence on where and how reduction in loss of biodiversity has been achieved and measures in place to ensure that reduction can be maintained.

68. It is important to provide an overall assessment of implementation in this chapter. Countries are encouraged to highlight areas where achievements have been made and areas where progress is lacking as well as gaps and future priorities.

Executive Summary

69. The Executive Summary should be concise and appealing to the decision-makers and the general public. It should contain key findings and messages from each chapter of the report, presented in a way convincing to the decision makers and the general public. It should be a miniature synthesis of the report rather than serve as an outline or introduction to the report. Countries are encouraged to refer to a proposed outline of an executive summary contained in annex III.

Appendices

70. For appendices, particularly appendix III on the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation and the programme of work on protected areas, countries need to report on relevant information not covered in the four main chapters, using a similar approach employed for chapters II and IV (focusing on targets established, actions taken to achieve these targets and outcomes accomplished). For targets included in GSPC and POWPA, countries should focus on those of national relevance and importance.

71. Countries could add in appendices any information reflecting national implementation of the Convention but not covered in the four main chapters.

Annex I

ORGANIZATION OF WORK
MONDAY, 19 APRIL 2010

9 a.m. – 10 a.m.	1.	Opening of the workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening Prayer • Opening statements (Samoan Environment Minister, SPREP, SCBD,) • Self-introduction of participants
10 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.		<i>Group photo & Morning Tea</i>
10.30 a.m. - 11.00 a.m.	2.	Overview of the objectives and programme for the workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction (SCBD) • Group and plenary discussion (Expectations from the Workshop)
11 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.	3. 4. 4(a)	Process of and tools available for preparing the fourth national report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status of preparation of the fourth national report-introductions by all participating countries • The guidelines and the tools for the preparation of the fourth national report (SCBD and resource persons) • Status and process of preparing the fourth national report (introductions by Samoa, Australia) Preparation of the Report. Chapter I of the report: Assessing the status and trends of, and major threats to biodiversity. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to chapter I by SCBD or resource person • Presentation by IUCN Oceania Office • Presentations of draft chapter I (Kiribati), followed by Q & A • Group exercises on threat analysis, using the MA framework
12.30 p.m. – 1.30 p.m.		<i>Lunch break</i>
1.30 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.	4 4(b)	Preparation of the Report (cont'd) Chapter II of the Report: Implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggestions on the preparation of chapter II by SCBD or resource person • Country presentations of draft chapter II (Fiji, Australia) • Questions and answers and discussion in Plenary • Group exercises on reviewing implementation of NBSAPs
3.30 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.		<i>Afternoon Tea</i>
4.00 p.m. -	4(c)	Chapter III of the Report: Mainstreaming

6 p.m.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to draft chapter III by SCBD or resource person • Country presentations of draft chapter III (Tonga, Samoa) • Questions and answers and discussion in Plenary
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TUESDAY, 20 APRIL 2010

9 a.m. - 9.15 a.m.	2	Overview of the objectives and programme for the Workshop (<i>continued</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief recap of day one and overview of plans for day two
9.15 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	4(d)	Chapter IV, Appendix III of the report: Assessing progress towards the 2010 biodiversity target and goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan as well as targets in GSPC and the programme of work on protected areas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction by SCBD or resource persons • Country presentations on draft Chapter IV (Palau, Australia) and appendix III Questions and answers and discussion in Plenary
10.30 a.m. – 11 a.m.		<i>Morning Tea</i>
11 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.	4(d)	Chapter IV, Appendix III of the report: Assessing progress towards the 2010 biodiversity target and goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan as well as targets in GSPC and the programme of work on protected areas (cont'd) <p>Group exercises to identify cases and signs of progress towards the 2010 target, using the framework contained in decision VIII/15</p>
12.30 a.m. – 1.30 p.m.		<i>Lunch break</i>
1.30 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.	5	Preparation of the executive summary of the Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation by Global Island Partnership • Introduction by SCBD or resource persons • Questions and answers and discussion in Plenary Work in small groups or individually to improve or write the Executive Summary
3.30 p.m. – 4 p.m.		<i>Afternoon Tea</i>
4 p.m. – 6 p.m.	4.	Preparation of the Report (<i>continued</i>) <p>Time for all the country representatives to work further on draft chapters I, II, III, IV and appendix III with support of the Secretariat and resource persons</p>

WEDNESDAY, 21 APRIL 2010

9 a.m. - 9.15 a.m.	2.	Overview of the objectives and programme for the workshop (<i>continued</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief recap of day two and overview of plans for day three
9.15 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	4.	Preparation of the Report (<i>continued</i>) <p>Time for all the country representatives to work further on draft chapters I, II, III, IV and appendix III with support of the Secretariat and resource persons</p>

10.30 a.m. – 11 a.m.		<i>Morning Tea</i>
11 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.	4.	Preparation of the Report (<i>continued</i>) Time for all the country representatives to work further on draft chapters I, II, III, IV and appendix III with support of the Secretariat and resource persons
12.30 a.m. – 1.30 p.m.		<i>Lunch break</i>
1.30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	6	MEA Reporting-Opportunities and Challenges (SPREP) Update on the negotiation of an international regime on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) – Clark Peteru (SPREP) International Year of Biodiversity session/CBD COP10 session for PICs by– Easter Galuvao/Nanette Woonton(SPREP)
3:30 p.m.- 4 p.m.		<i>Afternoon Tea</i>
4.00 pm – 5.30pm		Preparation of the Executive Summary Time for all the country representatives to work further on the executive summary with the support of the Secretariat and resource persons
7pm-9pm		<i>Reception hosted by SCBD/SPREP/Samoa CBD NFP</i>

22 APRIL, THURSDAY

9 a.m. - 9.15 a.m	2.	Overview of the objectives and programme for the workshop (<i>continued</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief recap of day three and overview of plans for day four
9.15 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	6.	Next steps: finalization of the fourth national report and key events in 2010 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Countries to present their plans and steps for finalization of the fourth national report for timely submission by end of May 2010 • Introduction by SCBD about the strategy for IYB and key events in 2010
10.30 a.m. – 11 a.m.		<i>Morning Tea</i>
11 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.	7.	Closure of the workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussions about recommendations from the workshop • Closing remarks
12.30 a.m. – 5.30 p.m.		A field trip to a marine protected area of Samoa.

Annex II

IDENTIFICATION OF SIGNS OR CASES OF PROGRESS TOWARDS THE 2010 TARGET IN SOME PACIFIC COUNTRIES

<i>A. Goals and targets</i>	<i>A. Progress towards the Target (highlighting key actions, outcomes and levels of progress)</i>
Protect the components of biodiversity	
<i>Goal 1. Promote the conservation of the biological diversity of ecosystems, habitats and biomes</i>	
<p>Target 1.1: At least 10% of each of the world’s ecological regions effectively conserved.</p>	<p>Solomon islands:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 100 Locally Managed Marine Protected Areas (LMMAs) • 1 World Heritage Site Listed <p>Vanuatu:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 50 community conservation areas (CCAs) inclusive of marine and terrestrial Protected Areas (PAs) with the biggest CA of around 5700 ha. • 1 World Heritage Site Listed • Voluntary recruitment of landowners for carbon credit trade has secured over 160,000 ha of land and towards a 500,000ha target
<p>Target 1.2: Areas of particular importance to biodiversity protected</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key Biodiversity Areas identified • Identified hotspots for biodiversity • IUCN Redlisted species • IBAS • Coral Triangle Initiative
<i>Goal 2. Promote the conservation of species diversity</i>	
<p>Target 2.1: Restore, maintain, or reduce the decline of populations of species of selected taxonomic groups.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IUCN Redlisted species • Recovery programmes e.g. mangroves, trochus, green snails, clams, various native trees spp replanting

<i>A. Goals and targets</i>	<i>A. Progress towards the Target (highlighting key actions, outcomes and levels of progress)</i>
Target 2.2: Status of threatened species improved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of the threatened species (IUCN Redlisted species) e.g. Samoa & Tonga and population surveys and threat analysis, Solomon Islands: Crocodiles which have been threatened but since banned for exports they have become a threat to people due to their large population • Samoa: Giant clam restocking • Vanuatu: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Quota on coconut crabs (Torba Province) and ban in some provinces (Sanma) ○ Quota on sandalwood export (80 tons per year) and only 2 license issued ○ Controlled license for aquatic live fish trade for exports ○ Banned export for flying foxes (Samoa/Vanuatu) ○ Banned export of sea cucumber/beche- de- mer
<i>Goal 3. Promote the conservation of genetic diversity</i>	
Target 3.1: Genetic diversity of crops, livestock, and of harvested species of trees, fish and wildlife and other valuable species conserved, and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained.	<p>Crops</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taro Leaf Blight (Samoa), • Taro Seed bank at SPC • Island cabbage, kumala, sweet yams kept at Agricultural Research Station (CIRAD) etc (Vanuatu) • Agrobiodiversity (ABS) by USP <p>Livestock</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sheep exports from Fiji to Samoa • Live Cattle exports banned (Vanuatu) • Breeding programmes for pigs, cattle and chickens (Vanuatu) <p>Harvested species of trees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medicinal plants disappearing (Tonga/Samoa/VU/SI) • Mangroves destruction controlled through amended EMC Act • Traditional knowledge on most countries is closed and not formally documented <p>Fish and wildlife</p>

<p>A. <i>Goals and targets</i></p>	<p>A. <i>Progress towards the Target (highlighting key actions, outcomes and levels of progress)</i></p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional practices with taboos for protection of species and ecosystems are still practiced
<p>Promote sustainable use</p>	
<p><i>Goal 4. Promote sustainable use and consumption.</i></p>	
<p>Target 4.1: Biodiversity-based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed, and production areas managed consistent with the conservation of biodiversity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Indigenous trees/plant for wood carving/handcrafts</i> • <i>Coral farming to reduce wild coral harvesting</i> • <i>Traditional taboo areas for species and ecosystems</i> • <i>Special management areas (Tonga)</i> • <i>Sustainable harvesting of fishery resources e.g. community quota, Nguna Pele Protected Area, Vanuatu</i> • <i>Tubi tree species banned for harvesting and export (Solomon Islands)</i> • <i>Sustainable harvesting of dolphins (SI)</i> • <i>Organic farming (Samoa, Vanuatu)</i> • <i>Sustainable Timber Allowable Yield for logging operations in islands (Vanuatu)</i> • <i>Registration of saw mill operator as pre-requisite for buying chainsaws (Vanuatu)</i> • <i>Tuna management Plans (Vanuatu, Tonga, Samoa, SI)</i>
<p>Target 4.2. Unsustainable consumption, of biological resources, or that impacts upon biodiversity, reduced.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government banning the export of logs and emphasizing timber milling locally in Solomon Islands (value Adding) before exporting • Ban commercial sale of dynamites (TNT) • Ban use of TNT for fishing • Licensing system for fishing boats and fishing vessels in Vanuatu. Some ships are not allowed to fish within the 6 miles zone • Quota systems discussed earlier in 2.2 • Giant clams restocking programmes in Tonga, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Samoa

<i>A. Goals and targets</i>	<i>A. Progress towards the Target (highlighting key actions, outcomes and levels of progress)</i>
Target 4.3: No species of wild flora or fauna endangered by international trade.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whaling • Dolphins in Solomon Islands is happening without any research being undertaken to determined their status • More research into IUCN Redlist species and general ecological surveys • Alternative income generation for communities with CCAs or PAs (marine or terrestrial) • Livelihood surveys e.g. taro
Address threats to biodiversity	
<i>Goal 5. Pressures from habitat loss, land use change and degradation, and unsustainable water use, reduced.</i>	
Target 5.1. Rate of loss and degradation of natural habitats decreased.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More Protected Areas • PoWPA funds to create more protected areas and develop management plans for effective management, conservation and use of biodiversity within CCA (most PICs) • 2 more PA will be established through the Integrated Water Resource Management Strategy over the Sarakata River Catchment with an estimated land area of over 10,000 ha • Improved enforcement of EIA Regulations • Integrated land use planning needed for Tonga • Regional/whole country land use planning needed ASAP
<i>Goal 6. Control threats from invasive alien species</i>	
Target 6.1. Pathways for major potential alien invasive species controlled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Model Biosecurity Bill developed by SPC adopted • Biosecurity Bill in place in Samoa • Tighten border controls for incoming/outgoing • Domestic invasive control programmes (fire ants-Vanuatu), rats eradication to protectspecies (Samoa) at Tamaligi and Aliepata • Eradication programmes for mynah birds • Giant African snail management plans & awareness

<i>A. Goals and targets</i>	<i>A. Progress towards the Target (highlighting key actions, outcomes and levels of progress)</i>
Target 6. 2. Management plans in place for major alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IAS Action Plan (Samoa) • IAS Taskforce in place (Vanuatu, Samoa, Solomon Islands) • Enforcement of bio-security protocols and legislations
<i>Goal 7. Address challenges to biodiversity from climate change, and pollution</i>	
Target 7.1. Maintain and enhance resilience of the components of biodiversity to adapt to climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Advisory Committee on Climate Change (Vanuatu, Samoa, Tonga, Solomon Islands) including technical working groups • Water resource catchment management (Integrated water resource mgt)-Vanuatu, Samoa • MESCAL Project with IUCN for mangroves replanting in all PICs • REDD initiatives to encourage communities and landowners to maintain forest and get financial returns from carbon • Promotion of ecosystem based approach to biodiversity conservation or species protection (PICs) e.g. integrated watershed management includes protected areas
Target 7.2. Reduce pollution and its impacts on biodiversity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enforcement of waste and pollution control legislations • Strict Environment Management and Monitoring Plans for logging, quarry and sewage treatment plans • Solid and liquid including hazardous waste management strategies • Ballast water guidelines enforced • Enforcement of marine pollution regulations for shipping wastes (MARPOL, London Convention etc) • NATPLAN-National Oil Spills Emergency Planning for all countries including legislation developed by SPC • Procurement of equipments to monitor pollution • Development of minimum guidelines for operation of fuel depots
Maintain goods and services from biodiversity to support human well-being	
<i>Goal 8. Maintain capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services and support livelihoods</i>	
Target 8.1. Capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services maintained.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established PAs support livelihood • Mangroves replanting in most PICS

A. Goals and targets	A. Progress towards the Target (highlighting key actions, outcomes and levels of progress)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
Target 8.2. Biological resources that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, especially of poor people maintained.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mixed agro-forestry –ensures food security, ensures integrity of ecosystem and ensures sustainable income for communities • Establishment and declaration of EEZ as protected/sanctuary for certain species such as whales • Promotion and replanting of native species of trees • Traditional medicines in all PICs using native and local plants and animals
Protect traditional knowledge, innovations and practices	
<i>Goal 9 Maintain socio-cultural diversity of indigenous and local communities</i>	
Target 9.1. Protect traditional knowledge, innovations and practices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNESCO World Heritage documentation of traditional knowledge • Vanuatu government declaration of “Kastom Ekonomi”/traditional economy to raise awareness on values, practices, beliefs for communities
Target 9.2. Protect the rights of indigenous and local communities over their traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, including their rights to benefit sharing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Bio-prospecting policy in Samoa</i> • <i>Bio-prospecting in Environment Management and Conservation Act in Vanuatu</i> • <i>Protected Areas Act has dedicated section on bio-prospecting in Solomon Islands</i> • <i>Agreements on benefit sharing in Environment Act in Samoa</i>
Ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources	
<i>Goal 10. Ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of genetic resources</i>	
Target 10.1. All access to genetic resources is in line with the Convention on Biological Diversity and its relevant provisions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Guidelines for benefit sharing in Samoa needs to be reviewed and revised</i> • <i>It is a requirement under law to have MOU between companies and government/resource owners</i>
Target 10.2. Benefits arising from the commercial and other utilization of genetic resources shared in a fair and equitable way with the countries providing such resources in line with the Convention on Biological Diversity and its relevant provisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>As mentioned in 9.2 (Samoa) and Vanuatu</i> • <i>MOUs with resource owners (Solomon Islands)</i>
Ensure provision of adequate resource	
<i>Goal 11: Parties have improved financial, human, scientific, technical and technological capacity to implement the Convention</i>	

A. <i>Goals and targets</i>	A. <i>Progress towards the Target (highlighting key actions, outcomes and levels of progress)</i>
<p>Target 11.1. New and additional financial resources are transferred to developing country Parties, to allow for the effective implementation of their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with Article 20.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GEF Small Grants in PICs help finance a lot of community biodiversity conservation activities • GEF-PAS projects: Invasive species, energy efficiency, EBAM as in CTI Project • PoWPA funds activities in protected areas and conservation areas • McArthur Foundation/SPREP project on integrated coastal zone management • EU project on water management • EU project on Biofuel • Lifeweb proposals • Green fee incorporated into EMC Act in Vanuatu targeting tourists for the purpose of protecting biodiversity and preventing pollution
<p>Target 11.2. Technology is transferred to developing country Parties, to allow for the effective implementation of their commitments under the Convention, in accordance with its Article 20, paragraph 4.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mapping technology based on GIS/GPS, mapinfo</i> • <i>Turtle monitoring/tagging using satellites</i> • <i>Promotion of eco-tourism and eco-friendly technologies e.g. aquaculture, agro-sylvi-culture, agro-meteorology,</i>

Annex III

PROPOSED OUTLINE OF THE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

You may wish to prepare roughly one short paragraph per bullet point.

(Points taken from chapter I)

- Importance of biodiversity for the country. Highlight contribution to human well-being, socio-economic development. Also highlight one or two examples of exceptional biodiversity and ecosystems in the country.
- Main threats to biodiversity (and ecosystems). Identify threats that are specific to the country, therefore they may be more precise than the general list in the Millennium Assessment.
- Impacts of threats on biodiversity and ecosystems. Graphic from MA relating threats to impacts (colours) and trends in impacts (arrows) for various ecosystems or components of biodiversity.
- Socio-economic implications of the impacts. Describe the impacts of declining biodiversity and ecosystems on human well-being, livelihoods, poverty reduction etc. Consider all relevant and significant ecosystem goods and services.
- Underlying causes of the threats. Link the threats (direct drivers) outlined above with the underlying causes (indirect drivers) and relate these to the relevant economic sectors.

(Points taken from chapter II)

- Progress in implementing the NBSAP. Provide an overall assessment of progress in implementing the NBSAP. (e.g. proportion of strategic objectives or activities implemented). Give two or three examples of successful actions implemented. Also identify obstacles to implementation, reasons behind them and how they may be overcome.
- Effectiveness of the NBSAP. Briefly assess the effectiveness – i.e. do the actions address the threats identified in chapter I?

(Points taken from chapter III)

- Integration of biodiversity into broader national policies. Describe how biodiversity is reflected in Poverty Reduction Strategies and other key cross-cutting policy instruments. Give one or two examples of progress on the ground if available.
- Integration of biodiversity into economic sectors. Which sectors (and ministries) integrate biodiversity well and which do not?
- Use of planning mechanisms; strategic environmental assessment.
- Additional steps: What additional efforts are needed to mainstream biodiversity?

(Points taken from chapter IV)

- Progress towards the 2010 target. Focus on outcomes. You may wish to summarize progress towards the goals and objectives in the CBD framework according to the seven focal areas (for example one bullet point or short paragraph per focal area). Provide an overall assessment of how progress in your country contributes to the overall 2010 Biodiversity target.
- Overall progress in the implementation of the Convention, including areas where progress is lacking.

(Final paragraphs, from chapter I, if information available)

- Plausible future scenarios of biodiversity and its implications for human well being. For example: (i) what might happen under “business and usual” in terms of future underlying causes, threats, impacts on biodiversity and implications for human well being; and (ii) what may happen with investment in biodiversity and ecosystems.

Annex IV

Proposed Outline of the Fourth National Report
(Countries could adjust according to their national circumstances)

Executive Summary

Chapter I: Status and Trends of and Threats to Biodiversity

1.1 Country Biodiversity Facts (main ecosystems/species/genetic diversity)

1.2 Overview of status and trends of biodiversity

- Highlights key changes in status and trends of biodiversity components observed in recent years and/or over years.
- Which ecosystems/species/genetic diversity is being endangered or improved?

1.3 Status and trends of changes in main ecosystems/key species /genetic diversity (This section should be concise/could refer to existing assessments made/use graphics to present trends)

1.4 Threat Analysis

- Analysis of direct threats
- Analysis of indirect threats
- Analysis of specific threats to particular ecosystems if any (optional)

1.5 Implications of changes in biodiversity (for national economic development, local livelihood, human welling, etc.)

Chapter II. Status of Implementation of NBSAP

2.1 Overview of NBSAPs (key goals, objectives, priority actions, key stakeholders identified)

2.2 Implementation of NBSAP

- Overall assessment of implementation of NBSAP (how many goals and actions have been implemented and how many have not).
- Assessing implementation of key goals, objectives and actions (Any national quantitative targets adopted; the extent to which these goals and actions have been implemented; what results have been achieved so far (cases and success stories could be used to illustrate outcomes if systematic monitoring results are not available), level of investment from domestic and international sources.
- Challenges or obstacles encountered in implementation of NBSAP.

2.3 Assessment of effectiveness of NBSAP

NBSAP could be assessed against threats identified in chapter I to see that it is effective to address them.

2.4 Contributions of national actions to implementation of the CBD thematic programme areas and cross-cutting issues

Table: Review of Implementation of NBSAPs (This could be put in annex if much detail is provided)

Goals	Objectives/Targets	Key Activities	Key Outcomes	Indicators for assessment

Chapter III: Mainstreaming

- 3.1 Overall assessment of mainstreaming (how many sectors have considered biodiversity in their respective strategies, plans and programmes and to what extent biodiversity has been considered in their practical implementation of these strategies, plans and programmes)
- 3.2 Integration of biodiversity into relevant sectors and cross-sectoral strategies, policies, plans and programmes (Information and analysis could be provided sector by sector)
- 3.3 Actions taken by different sectors (This could be combined with above, cases could be used to illustrate outcomes of mainstreaming)
- 3.4 National coordination mechanisms (what mechanism established, how it functions, how effective it is)
- 3.5 Tools for mainstreaming (application of the ecosystem approach, inclusion of biodiversity into environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment, integrated coastal and marine management, development and implementation of incentives based on evaluation of biodiversity and ecosystem services, etc.. Cases could be provided for use of these tools.)
- 3.6 Synergies in national implementation of related conventions (UNFCCC, UNCCD, Ramsar, CITES, CMS, etc.) (Cases could be provided)
- 3.7 Biodiversity considered in international development assistance programmes (Cases could be provided)

Chapter IV. Progress towards the 2010 target and implementation of the Strategic Plan

- 4.1 Overall assessment of progress towards the 2010 target (Has the target been achieved overall, which target has been fully achieved, which target has been partially achieved and which target has not)
Cases to illustrate progress towards the 2010 target or achievements made (where reduction is achieved, how reduction is achieved, and how reduction can be maintained, info concerning scale of reduction achieved, etc.)

4.2 Table for assessing progress towards the 2010 target

Goals	Targets	National targets	National actions	Outcomes achieved	National or global indicators used	Overall assessment (using symbols)

- 4.3 Implementation of the Strategic Plan (a similar table to the above could be used for this)
- 4.4 Overall assessment of implementation of the Convention
 - A. Areas where achievements have been made
 - B. Areas where progress is lacking/challenges
 - C. Gaps and future priorities
- Appendices I and II: contact info and a brief introduction about process of preparation of the report as well as further sources of information
- Appendix III: A. Implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation and the Programme of Work on Protected Areas (focusing on national targets established, actions to achieve these targets and outcomes achieved. A similar approach to that employed in chapter IV)
- Appendix IV (optional) use of indicators
- Other appendices

Annex V

PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES' PLAN TO FINALIZE AND SUBMIT THE FOURTH NATIONAL REPORT (DATES OR MONTHS BELOW ARE THOSE OF 2010)

<i>Countries</i>	<i>Draft report ready</i>	<i>Finalize report</i>	<i>Submit final report for domestic approval</i>	<i>Submit final report to SCBD</i>
COOK ISLANDS	Early June	Late June	Late June	July
FIJI	ready	End of May	End of May	June
KIRIBATI	Ongoing	Late July	Late July	July
PALAU	May	June	Early July	July (early August)
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	Mid-May	End of May	July	Mid July
SOLOMON ISLANDS	May 30	Early June	Late June	July
TONGA	ready	First week of May	First week of May	During May
VANUATU	May 30	June 15	June 30	June 30
