



## Convention on Biological Diversity

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WORKSHOP FOR THE MESOAMERICAN AND  
CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES ON THE PREPARATION  
OF THE FOURTH NATIONAL REPORT AND THE  
UPDATING OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN OF THE  
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY  
Panama City, 7-10 December 2009

### REPORT OF WORKSHOP

#### I. INTRODUCTION

1. The workshop for the Mesoamerican and Caribbean Countries on the Preparation of the fourth national report and the updating of the Strategic Plan of the Convention on Biological Diversity was organized from 7 to 10 December 2009 in Panama City with the support of IUCN Countdown 2010, the IUCN regional office for Latin America, the Global Environment Facility and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP-GEF) and UNEP Regional Office for Latin America and Caribbean (UNEP ROLAC) as well as the European Commission.
2. The workshop was organized in response to a request contained in paragraph 18 (d) of decision VIII/14, which requested the Executive Secretary to facilitate support to developing countries for preparing the fourth national report in collaboration with partners. The workshop was also part of the regional consultations organized in response to decision IX/9 of the Conference of the Parties, which requested the third meeting of the Working Group on Review of Implementation to prepare a revised Strategic Plan for consideration at its tenth meeting, including a revised biodiversity target (s).
3. The workshop was the third of a series of capacity development workshops organized to support the preparation of the fourth national report and assessment of progress towards the 2010 target. In addition to soliciting inputs to the new Strategic Plan of the Convention, the Workshop also aimed to provide inputs to the biodiversity strategic planning at the regional and sub-regional level for the post-2010 period.
4. The following countries sent government-nominated officers or experts to the workshop: Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago. The Division of Global Environment Facility Coordination (UNEP DGEF), IUCN regional offices, IUCN Countdown 2010 Secretariat, Birdlife International regional office in Quito and a few regional and local organizations sent experts to this workshop. A list of participants is contained in annex VI.
5. The workshop proceeded according to the following agenda items:
  1. Opening of the meeting and organizational matters.
  2. Overview of the objectives and programme for the workshop.

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3. Reviewing progress towards the 2010 target through preparation 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: Mainstreaming 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 targets in the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation and the programme of work on protected areas;
  - (e) The Executive Summary.
4. Strategic biodiversity planning at national and regional levels, regional diagnosis and national post-2010 regime.
5. Possible vision, goals, targets and measures to be included in the updated Strategic Plan of the Convention beyond 2010.
6. Conclusions: Ways forward leading to 2010.
7. Closure of the workshop.

6. The report provided a summary of the proceedings of the workshop. The presentations made in both English and Spanish during the workshop will be made available at the Convention website at: <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=WS4NRSP-CCA-01>.

## **II. PROCEEDINGS OF THE WORKSHOP**

### **ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING AND ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**

8. Mr. David Cooper, Senior Programme Officer of the Secretariat welcomed participants to the workshop on behalf of the Executive Secretary. He highlighted 2010 – the International Year of Biodiversity -- as unprecedented opportunity to raise awareness and mobilize support from various stakeholders to biodiversity. The new strategic plan for the Convention to be adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties will provide direction for future actions at all levels. To ensure the successes of all these, the timely submission of the fourth national reports is essential. Adequate information from the reports from all Parties is essential for developing the revised Strategic Plan of the Convention. Reporting is also important for Governments considering it can be used not only as a tool for further planning through identifying gaps but also a communication tool for mobilizing more support from various stakeholders to biodiversity. In concluding, he hoped that this workshop would help relevant countries finalize and submit the report soon, and contribute to the revising of the Strategic Plan of the Convention, highlighting the close links between reviews of progress towards the 2010 and development of post-2010 targets.

9. Mr. Jose Arturo Santos, a representative of IUCN regional office based in Costa Rica also highlighted the importance of this workshop to the regional biodiversity strategic planning for the post-2010 period. He informed that IUCN is working with a number of regional partner organizations and national governments to undertake a diagnosis of the biodiversity situations at national and regional level, which provides an important basis for national post-2010 target development and regional-level strategic planning, therefore contributing to the development of global biodiversity targets. He said that this workshop provided an important opportunity to bring countries together to elaborate possible national post-2010 regime, possible targets for the region and the whole world, based on information provided by the fourth national reports.

10. Ms. Esther Mwangi, welcomed the workshop participants on behalf of the Director of the Division of the Global Environment Facility of UNEP. She pointed out that UNEP supported this

workshop not only because it was part of the project to support the preparation of the fourth national report and national assessments of progress towards the 2010, but also it provides an opportunity to evaluate the impacts of this project, and more importantly helps identify what more needs to be done for future biodiversity enabling activities.

11. Ms. Isabel Martinez of UNEP ROLAC also welcomed the participants, highlighting the importance of this workshop to the post-2010 regional processes and initiatives, particularly upcoming regional assessment of the economics of the ecosystem services and biodiversity. She stressed that Latin American and Caribbean countries are very rich in biodiversity terms that much of its economy is linked to natural resources, and biodiversity is an issue that affects us all. She pointed out that LAC has the greatest diversity of endemic species in the world and approximately half of the world's tropical forests – although during 2000-2005, 66 per cent of the world's forest loss occurred in Latin America. She noted the contributions of relevant regional processes and initiatives to the development of the revised Strategic Plan of the Convention and the celebration of the International Year of Biodiversity.

12. Ms. Yessenia Gonzalez, Director of Protected Areas and Wildlife, National Environment Authority of Panama, also welcomed the participants highlighting that this workshop provides an impetus to national processes to assess progress towards the 2010 target and prepare the fourth national report. She noted that this workshop would facilitate the implementation of the Convention at various levels considering that national reporting can be used as a tool for further planning. She believed that the workshop would produce useful suggestions to help countries finalize their reports and provide useful inputs to the revising of the Strategic Plan of the Convention.

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

13. Following self-introductions, participants, discussed their expectations for this workshop, which include:

- Practical suggestions for preparing the fourth national report, particular information to be included in each individual chapter and how to undertake analysis of outcomes and impacts as suggested in the guidelines for the fourth national report;
- Exchange of the experiences and lessons from other countries in the preparation of the fourth national reports, including methods to analyse the status and trends of and threats to biodiversity, to review implementation of NBSAPs and mainstreaming and to assess progress towards the 2010 target and the Strategic Plan;
- Support from relevant regional and international organizations to national reviews or assessments and preparation of the report;
- Useful suggestions or inputs provided to the revising of the new Strategic Plan of the Convention.

14. Mr. David Cooper of the Secretariat introduced briefly the preparations for the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, including the status of the fourth national report, the development of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, the revising of the Strategic Plan of the Convention for the post-2010 period and the celebration of the International Year of Biodiversity. He also highlighted the international regime on access and benefit-sharing as a key expected outcome from the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. He also brought to attention of participants that the United Nations General Assembly would hold a special session on biodiversity in September 2010, which will provide great political support to the global biodiversity agenda. He urged countries to grasp this opportunity that should be never missed to promote national implementation of the Convention, in particular updating national biodiversity and action plan as necessary in response to the revised Strategic Plan of the Convention to be adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

15. Mr. Jose Arturo Santos from IUCN regional office in Costa Rica briefly introduced a sub-regional diagnosis which IUCN has been doing in collaboration with national governments and other regional and sub-regional organizations. He pointed out that this diagnosis, which Mesoamerican countries will discuss during the workshop, would provide inputs to national post-2010 target regime as well as relevant regional initiatives and strategic planning.

16. Mr. Alex Pires, MEA focal point of UNEP ROLAC, while introducing regional initiative on the economics of ecosystem services and biodiversity (TEEB), said that UNEP seeks a green economy that promotes sustainable growth with equitable access to resources and distribution of the benefits from their use. He explained that the regional initiative on TEEB is closely linked with a global initiative in this regard. The second phase now underway seeks to identify good experiences, develop a common approach to analyze ecosystem services and promote access to information in order to improve the participation of civil society in biodiversity management.

17. Ms. Esther Mwangi from UNEP DGEF, briefly introduced a medium-sized project to support national assessment of progress towards the 2010 target and the preparation of the fourth national report. She informed that so far 20 country requests had been approved for Phase III of this project and urged those countries from this region that have not submitted a request to do so as quickly. She also shared some information concerning ongoing discussions within the Global Environment Facility about a possible package to support countries' efforts to update and implement their NBSAPs, prepare the next national report of the Convention on Biological Diversity and develop their national clearing-house mechanisms. She emphasized that this package if adopted by the GEF would boost future biodiversity enabling activities.

### **ITEM 3. ASSESSING PROGRESS TOWARDS THE 2010 TARGET THROUGH PREPARATION OF THE FOURTH NATIONAL REPORT**

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

18. Mr. Lijie Cai, Programme Officer for national reports for the Secretariat introduced the overall suggestions for preparing the fourth national reports. He began by emphasizing that national reporting may be the only unqualified obligation of Parties under the Convention, highlighting that without national reports the Conference of the Parties cannot provide adequate policy guidance for national implementation, and in turn, national implementation would not be effective without policy guidance from the Conference of the Parties. While reading Article 26 of the Convention, he emphasized that national reports should cover not only measures for the implementation of the Convention but also an assessment of the effectiveness of these measures in meeting the objectives of the Convention. For the fourth national report in particular, countries are requested to focus on actions, outcomes, impacts, cases and challenges. While pointing out that the fourth national report should be presented primarily in narrative and using more graphics, he analyzed the structure of the report and emphasized that each chapter is closely interlinked and chapter IV on conclusion should draw upon key findings from all the chapters and appendices. For example, analysis of implementation of NBSAP could use data and information concerning the status and trends of biodiversity, particularly to what extent changes in status and trends arise from implementation of NBSAP and mainstreaming. He highlighted that an executive summary of the report should be well written because it contains key messages for the decision makers and the general public. He also proposed that all stakeholders should be involved in the process of preparing the report, emphasizing that reporting should not be for the sake of reporting only, instead it should be used as a process for further planning and a communication tool. In conclusion, he outlined the assistance countries can get from the Secretariat and other partners for preparing the report, including tools and resources made available on the portal devoted to the preparation of the fourth national report (<http://www.cbd.int/nr4/>).

19. Mr. Hesiquio Benitez Diaz from Mexico introduced its process of preparing the fourth national report. He said that Mexico had established three teams for preparing the report, namely drafting, reviewing and coordinating teams. For each team a group coordinator was appointed. He emphasized that it was important to involve relevant ministries, departments and institutions in the process. He informed

that Mexico had launched its fourth national report, using the opportunity to raise public awareness and support. Meanwhile, he also shared some content of the report. For analysis of the status and trends of biodiversity, he said that Mexico had undertaken studies on natural capital of Mexico. In the report a threat analysis for most ecosystems in Mexico was made, using the MA framework. He shared reflections on the implementation of the Convention, noting that evaluation of biodiversity, institutional capacity building, technology investment, cultivating sustainable culture and lifestyles and stakeholder involvement are crucial. He also shared analysis of the implementation of Mexico's national biodiversity strategy and action plans as well as other relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral strategies and plans. He highlighted the development of Mexico's national plant conservation strategy and achievements in establishing protected areas of various categories. In conclusion he shared the experiences and lessons Mexico has learned in the implementation. He delivered printed copies of this fourth national report for all participants.

20. Ms. Yasa Belmar from Saint Vincent and the Grenadines also briefly introduced its process of preparation. She stated that the draft report is based largely on activities undertaken by the various government agencies that have been incorporating biodiversity-related actions into their sectoral plans or whose work, in one way or another, contributes to implementation of the NBSAP. She explained that interviews were held with key resource persons within the different government ministries, departments and statutory organizations, as well as civil society and persons involved in the informal sector. These interviews, she said, were geared towards assessing their perceptions of the successes and constraints of particular strategies and measures outlined in the NBSAP towards mitigating the threats to the country's biodiversity. Focus group discussions were also held to promote the cross fertilization of ideas, thereby encouraging learning by all stakeholders involved in the process. The process should have also fostered greater consensus on the way forward with regards to implementation of the NBSAP and should catalyse a more integrated approach by those involved. Nevertheless, she noted that the most striking problem experienced by the consultants was the deficiency in good quality data, due to the absence of institutional structures within government agencies for continuous data collection, storage and analysis.

21. Mr. Dario Luque from Panama introduced the preparation of chapter I of its draft report. He said that this chapter began with an overview of biodiversity in Panama and then would be followed by an ecosystem-by-ecosystem analysis, including a threat analysis. In doing so, he stressed that Panama is trying to use as many sources of data and information as possible, including some from regional and international organizations including non-governmental organizations. He also shared some analysis of terrestrial eco-regions and marine and coastal areas of interest for biodiversity. In terms of threats, the analysis shows that main threats faced by biodiversity in Panama are pollution, climate change, agricultural intensification and other human interferences. With regards to the process, he noted delays in coordination and access to funds.

22. Mr. Amiro Perez-Leroux from Birdlife International regional office in Quito, Ecuador introduced how Birdlife could provide support to countries in the region for assessing progress towards the 2010 target and preparing the fourth national report, particularly analysis of the status and trends of biodiversity particularly birds. He said that Birdlife International had a strong information base to support national efforts in this regard, highlighting a number of its key research projects and findings related to Central American and Caribbean countries, particularly information about important bird areas at regional and national level. Particularly he emphasized the importance of counting with a rate of more than 2,345 IBAS in Mesoamerica. He also shared trend, threat and gap analysis of birds for the two subregions. He concluded by indicating that Birdlife International in the region and at national level would provide specific support to address needs of relevant countries.

23. Participants worked in small groups to undertake an analysis of major threats to biodiversity in their countries, using a framework provided in the second edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook and the Millennium Ecosystem Assessments. The analysis undertaken by one of the groups is contained in annex IV.

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

24. The Secretariat introduced recommendations for the preparation of chapter II. He began by highlighting that this chapter should go beyond a list of policies and activities. It should provide an in-depth analysis of implementation of NBSAPs and an assessment of the effectiveness of the strategy to address threats identified in chapter I. In terms of structure, he suggested that this chapter could begin with an overview of the strategy, then move to indicate whether any national or global targets had been incorporated into the strategy, and further on to an analysis of outcomes of implementation activities (with indication of funding level to support these activities) and conclude with an assessment of the effectiveness of the strategy and analysis of challenges encountered in implementation. He also suggested that this chapter should provide information concerning how national actions have contributed to the implementation of the thematic programmes of work and cross-cutting issues under the Convention as well as relevant COP decisions. For analysis of outcomes, he suggested that countries could use cases or examples to illustrate outcomes of implementation if results of systematic monitoring are not available. Data and information provided in chapter I concerning positive changes in biodiversity status and trends could be used as a reference to illustrate the outcomes of implementation of NBSAPs where such links exist. To give an overview of implementation of NBSAPs, countries are also encouraged to use a table to highlight key objectives, activities or actions and outcomes as well as indicators used if any.

25. Ms. Delamine Claris Andrew from Antigua and Barbuda introduced preparation of chapter II of its draft report. She said that NBSAP had not been fully implemented because it was not adopted by the Parliament though its development was a groundbreaking process. However, she said that key aspects of NBSAP are being integrated into a broader environmental strategy and some activities included in NBSAP are being implemented through it. In terms of challenges, she highlighted capacity constraints and lack of legislation. Mr. Marcelo Windsor from Belize also briefly introduced its draft chapter II. He informed that NBSAP was used as a reference document by relevant departments, though it was not officially adopted.

26. Participants provided suggestions or comments on the draft chapters presented.

**C. Chapter III: Mainstreaming of biodiversity**

27. The Secretariat introduced recommendations for the preparation of chapter III. He emphasized that this chapter should go beyond a list of sectoral or cross-sectoral strategies and plans and countries should focus on mechanisms established and outcomes achieved through mainstreaming, particularly focusing on those sectors where biodiversity has been genuinely integrated. He suggested that this chapter should also report on the application of main instruments to mainstream biodiversity such as the ecosystem approach, environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment. Countries are also requested to report on the implementation of relevant conventions particularly activities related to biodiversity and how synergies in the implementation of these MEAs are being reinforced at various levels. Where applicable, countries could report on how biodiversity is considered and addressed in international and regional cooperation, including South-South cooperation and transboundary cooperation. For analysis of the outcomes, countries are encouraged to provide cases or examples where mainstreaming had generated impacts or outcomes.

28. Mr. Sergio Midence from Honduras introduced preparation of chapter III. It focuses on four main sectors: government, private sector, education, and civil society. In terms of sectoral and cross-sectoral policies, this chapter covers strategies and plans for forestry, protected areas, wildlife protection and tourism as well as poverty reduction strategy. Having realized that lack of coherence in these strategies and plans developed in different periods of time will bring problems to their implementation, Honduras has established a new authority to coordinate in the next four years. The private sector in Honduras also shows a remarkable interest in biodiversity and wishes to see that their activities are reflected in national reports as a way to demonstrate their corporate social responsibility. A few cases are included in the chapter in which the private sector has taken into consideration of biodiversity concerns while undertaking their activities. For example, Honduran Association of Private Enterprises (COHEP) has

developed a proposal on how to do land use planning taking into consideration the location of the protected areas and the sites where the main crops are located in the territory and the actual trends of land use. The Honduran Association of Coffee Producers (AHPROCAFE) has established four certificate brands including Rain Forest and Bird Friendly.

29. Ms. Anita James from Saint Lucia introduced draft chapter III. She began a background introduction by saying that biodiversity is crucial for national economy and local livelihood considering growing tourism depends heavily on it. Against this backdrop Saint Lucia is integrating biodiversity into relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral policies and programmes. She informed that Saint Lucia had signed 14 international and regional environmental agreements and similarity in agendas fuelled the need to seek synergies in their implementation. She shared a set of national policies and programmes where biodiversity has been integrated, particularly national millennium development goals. In terms of processes of integration, she said that Saint Lucia employed five approaches: legislation (with biodiversity enshrined in sectoral legislations), collaboration among relevant sectoral departments and integrated development planning framework (with National Environment Commission overseeing environmental management), establishment of inter-sectoral committees (such as National Biodiversity Committee), and networking (strong sectoral agencies working together). She also said that Saint Lucia had been using incentives such as Green Globe Awards for tourism, agricultural incentives regime (that promotes mainstreaming at community level) and national biodiversity awards targeted at schools, the media, and the private sector and local communities. The ecosystem approach had been adopted through integrated development planning framework, citing successful cases such as Saint Lucia's Heritage Tourism Programme which encourages local communities to conserve biodiversity for sustainable tourism development. In terms of outcomes achieved through mainstreaming, she cited biodiversity partly integrated into national development planning, participation of local communities in biodiversity conservation maximized and positive changes observed in biodiversity status such as increased fish stocks. In conclusion, she outlined the approaches and challenges for preparing this chapter as well as vision and goals included in the second NBSAP which is being developed.

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

30. Ms. Nadine Saad, Consultant for the CBD Secretariat, introduced recommendations for preparing chapter IV and appendix III. She emphasized that this chapter should draw upon key findings from all the previous chapters including appendix III and link assessment with progress in Millennium Development Goals. In measuring progress, countries are encouraged to use indicators, both national and global, and provide as many cases as possible to illustrate progress. When assessing progress towards the 2010 target and the Strategic Plan, countries are encouraged to use a table to highlight targets, actions to achieve these targets, outcomes achieved and indicators used for assessment. Countries could use certain marks or symbols to assess levels of progress. When submitting cases, countries could focus on reduction achieved, measures to bring about reduction and those being planned or undertaken to maintain reduction, relevant external factors that influence rate of biodiversity loss and lessons learned. While countries have the flexibilities to include any cases they consider important, suggested criteria for selection include significant and sustained reduction, a clear baseline for measurement, use of indicators, well-defined scale of example and convincing arguments on why and how reduction can be sustained. She also suggested that this chapter should conclude with an overall assessment of the implementation of the Convention, highlighting areas where key achievements have been made and progress is still lacking.

31. The Secretariat also introduced suggestions for preparing appendix III on the implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation and the programme of work on protected areas, highlighting that this appendix should build on what is reported in the main body of the report. It was suggested that countries should focus on national targets adopted, actions taken to achieve these targets, outcomes achieved and challenges encountered. It was stressed that countries should report on implementation of these targets relevant to them. Countries are also encouraged to use indicators if any.

32. Ms. Daysi Vilamajo Alberdi from Cuba introduced its chapter IV. In terms of the process, National Group on Biodiversity coordinated the assessment and two workshops involving various sectors were held for this assessment. She highlighted key achievements accomplished and challenges encountered in the assessment. Mr. David Cooper of the Secretariat also showed assessment undertaken in the fourth national report of the United Kingdom in which simple symbols and indicators are used to rank progress. Guatemala also demonstrated how it used a table to illustrate progress towards the 2010 target, by highlighting targets, actions, outcomes and indicators.

33. Mr. Hesiquio Benitez Diaz from Mexico introduced its analysis of implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation and development of its national strategy for plant conservation (EMCV). He said that a coordinating committee was established involving various departments and institutions in the process and national workshops were also held for developing such a strategy. He stressed that the strategy contains not only a vision and goals but also indicators and means of verification. Furthermore, he made a brief presentation regarding the GAP Analysis that Mexico made in compliance with the requirements for Appendix III provided by the Secretariat, stressing that its main goal was to conduct several gap analyses to identify *in situ* conservation priorities, in order to guide new efforts of PA creation, but also considering other conservation mechanisms. The remarkable conclusions of such analysis were that Mexico needs to increase the areas destined for conservation in order to represent effectively a larger number of biodiversity elements through the implementation of diverse strategies such as: new protected areas; integral management programmes; land use planning strategies and a better participation and involvement of society as a whole in conservation and sustainable use practices.

34. Participants worked in small groups to identify signs and cases of progress towards the 2010 target.

(e) *Chapter V: Preparation of the executive summary of the report*

35. The Secretariat introduced suggestions for writing an executive summary. She stressed that the executive summary should contain key information from each chapter and appendices III and IV and key conclusions from the report. It could be used as key messages sent to the decision-makers and the general public. It should not serve as an introduction or outline of the report. In addition, she suggested that writing an executive summary could follow the steps below:

- Identify main ideas/messages from the report;
- Develop an outline for the summary;
- Have a key statement/fact for each paragraph, which is then supported and justified;
- Find a balance between being broad and being concise.

The Secretariat also introduced a proposed outline for the executive summary from the workshop for least developed countries, which is reproduced here in annex IV. Participants were asked to write an outline of the executive summary.

**ITEM 4. STRATEGIC BIODIVERSITY PLANNING AT NATIONAL AND REGIONAL LEVEL, SUBREGIONAL DIAGNOSIS AND NATIONAL POST-2010 REGIME**

36. For Caribbean and Mesoamerican countries separately, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity introduced proposed key elements of the updated Strategic Plan, including proposed long-term vision 2050 and vision for 2020, four goals and 19 targets as well as proposed means of implementation. He highlighted that the draft plan was developed based on submissions from Parties, information provided in the fourth national reports and draft edition of GBO 3 as well as the regional consultations like this. In terms of the process, he shared a number of upcoming consultations, regional (Asia, Africa in December 2009 and Middle East in January 2010) and global (London in January 2010 and Trondheim in early February 2010) and envisioned that the draft plan would be finalized based on all



these consultations for consideration at the third meeting of the Working Group on Review of Implementation in May 2010.

37. In general discussions following that presentation, participants of the Caribbean countries were of the view that interim milestones would need to be developed to ensure that countries will be on a right track to achieving the 2020 headline targets and avoid last-minute efforts. Then participants worked in small groups on possible milestones for targets 1, 2 and 19. Participants of the Mesoamerican countries also did an exercise on the post-2010 targets.

38. Participants from the Mesoamerican countries met separately to discuss about subregional diagnosis of the biodiversity trends based on the information from the fourth national reports, including national post-2010 target regime. The consultant hired by IUCN to undertake a preliminary analysis based on information from the third and fourth national reports presented his analysis and key findings from it. The Secretariat also introduced the processes of updating the Strategic Plan of the Convention for the post-2010 period, views received from Parties and observers and relevant consultations held so far and draft outline and proposed elements of the Strategic Plan developed on the basis of inputs. Following that, participating countries did an exercise on post-2010 strategizing and had discussions about the regional diagnosis and post-2010 targets. The session:

- Reaffirmed the need to maintain and pursue relevant CBD goals and targets as biodiversity loss continues. Countries should make greater efforts to halt biodiversity loss.
- Recognized the need to work together as a region to address various issues faced by the region. This could be in the form of South-South cooperation, exchange of experiences between people and countries and knowledge generation.
- Reaffirmed the urgency of integrating relevant government departments, civil society and the private sector in the implementation of CBD.
- Stressed the need to involve indigenous peoples in relevant decision making processes, not only as observers.
- Called on donors to respond to national and regional priorities rather than their own interests.
- Urged countries to address gaps in implementation while formulating relevant national policies.
- Encouraged countries to focus on use of the ecosystem approach so as to allow biodiversity to contribute to improving quality of life of people and communities.
- Proposed to develop Mesoamerican Strategic Plan for post 2010.
- Recognized urgency of achieving the Millennium Development Goals.
- Recognized the importance of public awareness of and a better participation in the implementation of the Convention.
- Recognized the urgency of implementation of the third objective of the Convention.

39. Meanwhile, the Caribbean and Mesoamerican countries had individual discussions with the Secretariat and resource persons about where improvements should be made in their draft reports.

40. Mr. Jorge Ventocilla from IUCN Countdown 2010 introduced the TEMATEA project, which is developed to support national and regional efforts to harmonize the implementation of related international and regional environmental agreements. He underlined the usefulness of this tool to support harmonization of national monitoring and reporting through pooling together relevant decisions of related conventions and agreements. He shared the experiences and lessons learned from a number of pilot projects undertaken at national level for harmonized reporting.

#### **ITEM 5. POSSIBLE VISION, GOALS, TARGETS AND MEASURES TO BE INCLUDED IN THE UPDATED STRATEGIC PLAN OF THE CONVENTION BEYOND 2010**

41. One participant of the Caribbean countries reported on the results of small groups yesterday. Mexico provided comprehensive comments on the draft revised Strategic Plan, highlighting that a number of targets need further elaboration in order to be SMART. Guatemala provided general comments on the

draft strategic plan. In general terms, participants agreed that it is important to be careful on how the targets incorporate elements such as climate change.

42. Participants discussed in plenary about possible vision, mission, goals, targets and mechanisms to support implementation to be included in the revised Strategic Plan of the Convention beyond 2010. The plenary first looked at vision and mission of the updated Strategic Plan. Participants basically agreed with the proposed vision with minor changes. With regard to the mission, some participants indicated preference for option 3 and some suggested combining three options. A small group was asked to present a revised mission which is below:

“To achieve by 2020, a reduction and where possible, the halt of biodiversity loss through conservation, restoration and sustainable use and also address to underline causes of biodiversity loss to improve its status, prevent extinctions and maintain and enhance ecosystem services, while equitably sharing the benefits, in order to sustain life on earth; thus contributing to poverty eradication and human well-being, while ensuring that all Parties have the means to achieve this”.

43. Participants then looked at four strategic goals and suggested that some goals could be rephrased to avoid description of means of achieving these goals. Some suggested that access and benefit-sharing should become a separate goal. Some suggested that overlaps among goals should be avoided. Participants worked in two small groups on mechanisms to support implementation. Participants consider it is important to have national commitments to implementing the Strategic Plan and strengthen national policy making (such as sustainable land use) and national monitoring. Some participants suggested using regional approaches to support implementation. Some participants supported strengthening policy-science interface and more efforts at public awareness and education. One participant suggested adding “aid agencies” as one of the players to support implementation. General comments regarding the need of creating not just economic incentives were made.

44. Participants also discussed about possible milestones for some targets. For target 2, one group suggested the following milestones:

- By 2012 all countries have a plan for meeting this target.
- By 2015 all countries should have national sustainable development plans that incorporate value of biodiversity and integrate biodiversity into all sectors.
- By 2015 at least 80 per cent of countries apply legislation regulating access to and benefit-sharing from use of genetic resources.
- By 2020 all countries should have all relevant documents of strategic environment assessment and green accounting.

45. Participants discussed in four groups respectively about four sets of targets under Goals A, B, C and D. Suggested changes to or comments on proposed targets are contained in annex IV.

46. In general most groups were of the view that targets should be SMART and more specific. Many targets need to be further elaborated to make them quantifiable and measurable. Some participants noted a dilemma between ambition and realism when developing targets and stressed that science should be a basis for developing these targets. For all targets many groups stressed the need to develop indicators to monitor and evaluate their implementation.

47. Specifically for Target 5, one group suggested changing 50 to 25 per cent because it seems infeasible to achieve such a target by 2020. For target 6, “sustainable use” is added into the second part. For target 9, Cuba suggested adding “human beings” and biodiversity in general. “Eradication” needs to be added for “invasive species” in target 9. For target 10, one participant suggested that the Convention on Biological Diversity should act independently no matter what happens in Copenhagen. For target 14, it is considered not measurable because it contains no specific tasks and it would be more helpful to add two elements such as increasing sequestration. For target 16, one group suggested adding milestones for its

implementation. For targets 18 and 19, one group suggested adding “sustainable use” for both. One participant suggested adding one target for the marine protected areas considering that the percentage of MPA is small compared with other ecosystems.

#### ITEM 6. CONCLUSIONS: WAYS FORWARD LEADING TO 2010

48. All participating countries presented briefly their plans to prepare and finalize their fourth national reports, focusing on specific work that leads to finalization of the reports and the possible dates that the reports can be finalized and submitted to the Secretariat. Most participating countries aim to finalize and submit the report in February and March 2010, with a few aiming to send the report to the Secretariat before end of the year or in January 2010.

49. Ms. Elisa Calcaterra from IUCN Countdown 2010 made a presentation of the economics of ecosystem services and biodiversity, focusing on decision support for administrators. She began by saying that the TEEB concept emanated from the Millennium Ecosystem Assessments. After having outlined components of human well-being and ecosystem services, she elaborated the close interrelationships between these two. Then she explained how an ecosystem service perspective can improve relevant decision making. After having outlined the structure and content of the D2 report, she shared rationales for the report, which are presented below:

- Concern for **biodiversity** is not a luxury – Ecosystem services are essential for **wellbeing**;
- Many **pressures** on biodiversity are driven at levels beyond the local policy levels;
- But equally biodiversity is affected by **planning** at the **local** level;
- **Actions** can be taken at local level to better include biodiversity in policy making and public management;
- This report shows **how it can be done**.

50. Finally she shared possible messages to national and local decision makers and asked participants to think about their suitability, noting that most of them are national or local managers of biodiversity and natural resources.

51. Before the workshop was closed, participants looked at recommendations from this workshop respectively concerning the preparation of the fourth national report and the updated Strategic Plan of the Convention, which are contained in part III of the report.

#### ITEM 7. CLOSURE OF THE WORKSHOP

27. The Workshop closed at 5.30 p.m. on Thursday, 10 December 2009, with remarks by the Officer-in Charge of UNEP ROLAC, Panama CBD NFP, IUCN regional office and the Secretariat.

### III. CONCLUSIONS OF THE WORKSHOP

#### A. *Recommendations for the preparation of the fourth national report*

##### 1. *Process of preparation*

1. It is strongly recommended that the process should be used as one more than reporting. Instead this is an important opportunity to further plan for and raise public awareness of and support to biodiversity and implementation of the Convention, particularly achieving its 2010 target. 2010 is a year of opportunity that should be never missed as the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties will adopt a new Strategic Plan for the Convention, possibly including new biodiversity target(s) and before that, the United Nations General Assembly will hold a special session on

biodiversity, which will provide unprecedented political support to the implementation of the Convention at various levels.

2. Establishing a coordinating team at national level involving relevant departments and stakeholders is crucial to ensure that the report will be based on inputs from all stakeholders, and more importantly, as a result, the ownership of the report by all stakeholders will help win more public support to national implementation of the Convention. Such involvement and consultation is recommended even though time is limited for the preparation of the report.
3. Countries are encouraged to initiate a national process to prepare the report and endeavour to submit the report as soon as possible even though international funding is not available immediately.
4. Countries that have not submitted their reports are urged to do so as soon as possible, contributing to reviewing progress towards the 2010 targets and preparations for the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties including the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook.
5. Difficulties of some countries in accessing funds were noted and recommended that the implementing agencies would expedite the approval and release of the funds.

## *2. Preparation of report*

### *Overall preparation*

6. As many sources of information as possible including relevant data and information provided by relevant international and regional organizations and international, regional and national non-governmental organizations should be used in national reports. This helps ensure that the report is most up-to-date and high-quality. Existing indicators, being national and global, should be used to ensure more scientific reviewing of implementation and progress.
7. The report should focus more on actions taken, outcomes achieved and obstacles encountered. Successful cases or examples from various levels should be used to illustrate outcomes if results of systematic monitoring are hard to obtain.
8. In analyzing and presenting outcomes, countries are encouraged to focus on national priority activities and nationally important targets. A general report with a cover-all shopping list while in-depth analysis of key activities and outcomes is absent is not encouraged. This is particularly important for small island developing states with limited capacities and resources where a limited number of activities have been implemented focusing on their national priorities.
9. The structure of the report should be balanced to ensure that each chapter has adequate information and analysis, and to avoid the situation that some chapters are too lengthy while some chapters are too short. Meanwhile countries should recognize that all the chapters are closely interrelated. For example positive changes in status and trends provided in chapter I could be used as evidence to illustrate outcomes of implementation of NSBSAPs where such links exist. In chapter IV, countries are encouraged to draw upon key findings from all the previous chapters to analyze progress towards the 2010 target and the Strategic Plan till 2010.

*Preparation of chapter I*

10. Analysis of trends or scenarios where possible is encouraged because this is helpful to strategic planning at national, regional and even global level. Use of graphics and figures is encouraged.
11. Analysis of main threats to or drivers of change in biodiversity, both direct and indirect, is important, while analysis of threats to all the ecosystems covered in the report may not be necessary. Analysis of implications of change in biodiversity for social and economic development and human well-being is equally important.

*Preparation of chapter II*

12. Lack of political endorsement of NBSAPs (by the cabinet or the parliament) is recognized as a barrier to the implementation of NBSAPs. Despite, this is not considered as an indicator to assess the status of implementation of NBSAP.
13. Countries should assess the effectiveness of the strategy in light of main threats identified in chapter I to see whether it is effective enough to address them. Countries should assess the need to update or revise or add elements to the existing NBSAP in light of possible goals and targets likely to be adopted at national level in response to the updated Strategic Plan of the Convention for post-2010 period.

*Preparation of chapter III*

14. Involving relevant sectors and stakeholders is essential to ensure that this chapter covers initiatives and activities of all sectors and levels of government.
15. Countries are encouraged to focus on those sectors where biodiversity concerns are genuinely considered and where actions have been taken including mechanisms established to make mainstreaming generate specific outcomes.
16. Countries should also analyze why some sectors have not integrated biodiversity or included biodiversity in their strategies and plans without having taken practical actions as planned. This is particularly important for those sectors or actors that have important impacts on biodiversity.
17. This chapter should cover the application of main instruments to mainstream biodiversity, such as the ecosystem approach, environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment.

*Preparation of chapter IV and appendix III*

18. Countries are encouraged to use scores or marks to assess progress towards the 2010 target, using indicators, being national and global, as much as possible. Scoring or marking should be supported with evidence or summary of key activities and outcomes contributing to particular goals or targets, with cross-references to the previous chapters where necessary.
19. Targets in particular corresponding national targets adopted should be reviewed in national context.

20. Successful cases or examples to illustrate progress should be provided even though the overall assessment may be that as a whole the 2010 target is not achieved.
21. Gap analysis could be done where targets are not achieved.
22. For GSPC and POPWA, target-by-target analysis is not necessary. Countries should focus on nationally important or relevant targets. It should be noted that appendix III is only complementary to four main chapters, with focus on national targets adopted and actions taken to achieve them.
23. An overall assessment of the implementation should be made, highlighting key achievements, main areas lacking progress, key challenges and recommendations for future priorities.

#### *Preparation of an executive summary*

24. The executive summary should contain key statements and messages to decision makers and the general public. To this end it should be written in concise and appealing language.
25. The executive summary should capture key findings from the report, without repeating details in each chapter. The summary should highlight key findings about status, trends, threats and implications as well as achievements in implementation of NBSAPs, mainstreaming and the 2010 target and areas where progress is most lacking, including challenges encountered.
26. The proposed outline for the executive summary contained in annex II of the report of the workshop for least developed countries on the preparation of the fourth national report (4-8 May, 2009, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia) is very helpful and should be followed.

### 3. *Other recommendations*

#### *Format for the fourth national report*

27. Most participants consider the format for the fourth national report very useful. In particular the flexibilities of this format allow countries to provide an in-depth analysis of national situation and implementation. A few participants suggested that a combination of question-and-answer and narrative formats may make statistical analysis easier while keeping flexibilities accorded by the narrative format.

#### *Capacity-development workshop on preparation of national reports*

28. Capacity-development workshops to support preparation of national reports are very helpful to participating countries. It is recommended that such future workshops should be organized at the early stage of preparation so as to push national processes and help countries know better from the very beginning how the report should be prepared (and avoid guessing and uncertainties in the process).
29. Exchange of national experiences in the preparation of national reports through such a workshop, in particular good practices in reviewing implementation, is beneficial to participating countries in many aspects, including obviously accelerating the finalization and submission of the report.

**B. *Comments or suggestions on the Updated Strategic Plan of the Convention for the Post-2010 period***

1. Participants support the basic approach for the updated Strategic Plan set out in UNEP/CBD/SP/PREP/2 (i.e. addressing indirect and direct drivers in addition to direct conservation actions), though some changes are needed.
2. Where possible, the framework and targets should be made simpler.
3. Participants considered the suggested text for the Vision to be basically good, though a reference to “sustainable use” should be included and it was proposed that the phrase “living in harmony” could be used as a slogan, rather than as part of the Vision itself;
4. The Mission could be reworded. (e.g.: *“To achieve by 2020, a reduction and where possible, the halt of biodiversity loss through conservation, restoration and sustainable use and also address to underline causes of biodiversity loss to improve its status, prevent extinctions and maintain and enhance ecosystem services, while equitably sharing the benefits, in order to sustain life on earth; thus contributing to poverty eradication and human well-being, while ensuring that all Parties have the means to achieve this”.*)
5. Goals & Targets:
  - a. Not all the targets are SMART
  - b. Target 3 should aim to not only remove harmful subsidies, but also promote positive incentives.
  - c. Goal C should be reworded to recognize: the value of biodiversity itself; the contribution to other benefits besides climate change. Also: “implement” as well as “promote”
  - d. Goal C could be split into parts dealing with “conservation of biodiversity” and “restoration for ecosystem services”.
  - e. Goal D needs to be rephrased to be clearer.
  - f. Target 17 on access and benefit sharing could become a separate goal, or moved to A, or stay in D by itself. The same could apply for Target 18.
  - g. There is a need to reflect the sharing of benefits from biodiversity in general (beyond genetic resources).
6. Use science to develop the targets and to determine the quantifiable elements therein. Where the scientific justification is clear, this should guide the target, rather than political expediency.
7. Participants highlighted the importance of milestones (and of reporting on these) between more comprehensive national reports for the mid-term review (for 2015) and final review (for 2020).
8. There will be a need to review NBSAPs (and regional strategies) in line with the new Strategic Plan.
9. The section on mechanisms to support implementation should be strengthened. For example:
  - a. There is a need to include importance of national commitments and political will.
  - b. There is a need to see how national commitments/targets add up, and contribute towards the global targets, taking into account issues of scalability.
  - c. The importance of exchanging information, tools and methodologies should be highlighted
  - d. Support to local level implementation is needed
  - e. Awareness raising must be highlighted.
  - f. Regional approaches to support implementation are needed.
10. There is a need for countries to articulate funding needs, rather than projects being donor driven. NBSAPs, aligned with new SP to inform such needs, could be a useful tool for this.

*Annex I***PROGRAMME OF WORKSHOP****MONDAY, 7 DECEMBER, 2009**

9 a.m. – 9.30 a.m.	<b>1.</b>	<b>Opening of the workshop</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Opening statements (Panama CBD NFP, SCBD, IUCN, UNEP ROLAC, UNEP DGEF)</li> <li>Self-introduction of participants</li> </ul>
9.30 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	<b>2.</b>	<b>Overview of the objectives and programme for the workshop</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduction (SCBD) and preparations for COP 10: updating the Strategic Plan, the fourth national report and third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (SCBD)</li> <li>IUCN Countdown 2010 on preparation of subregional diagnosis (IUCN regional office for Latin America)</li> <li>The economics of ecosystem services and biodiversity (UNEP ROLAC)</li> <li>Support to national reporting under the CBD and future biodiversity enabling activities (UNEP DGEF)</li> <li>Plenary discussion</li> </ul>
10.30 a.m. – 11 a.m.		<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.	<b>3.</b>  <b>3(a)</b>	<b>Assessing progress towards the 2010 target through preparing the fourth national report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Status and process of preparation of the fourth national reports (introductions by Mexico, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)</li> </ul> <b>Chapter I of the report: Assessing the status and trends of, and major threats to biodiversity.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduction to chapter I by SCBD or resource person</li> <li>Presentation by Birdlife International (Quito)</li> <li>Country presentations of draft chapter I (Panama)</li> <li>Questions and answers and discussion in plenary</li> <li>Group exercises on threat analysis using the MA framework</li> </ul>
12.30 p.m. – 2 p.m.		<i>Lunch break</i>
2 p.m. – 4 p.m.	<b>3(b)</b>	<b>Chapter II of the report: Implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduction to draft chapter II by SCBD or resource person</li> <li>Country presentations of draft chapter II (Antigua and Barbuda, Belize)</li> <li>Questions and answers and discussion in plenary</li> </ul>
4. p.m. – 4.30 p.m.		<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
4.30 p.m. - 6 p.m.	<b>3(c)</b>	<b>Chapter III of the report: Mainstreaming</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduction of guidelines for chapter III by SCBD or resource person</li> <li>Country presentations of draft chapter III (Honduras, Saint Lucia)</li> <li>Questions and answers and discussion in plenary</li> </ul> Work in small groups to discuss how to improve draft chapters I, II and III
7 p.m. – 9 p.m.		<i>Welcome cocktail hosted by SCBD/IUCN Countdown 2010/UNEP ROLAC</i>



**TUESDAY, 8 DECEMBER 2009**

9 a.m. - 9.15 a.m.	<b>2</b>	<b>Overview of the objectives and programme for the workshop (<i>continued</i>)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brief recap of day one and overview of plans for day two</li> </ul>
9.15 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	<b>3(d)</b>	<b>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</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction by SCBD or resource persons</li> <li>• Country presentations on draft chapter IV (Cuba) and appendix III (GSPC and Gap Analysis by Mexico)</li> <li>• Questions and answers and discussion in plenary</li> <li>• Group exercises on identifying signs and cases of progress towards the 2010 target</li> </ul>
10.30 a.m. – 11 a.m.		<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.	<b>3(e)</b>	<b>Preparation of the executive summary of the report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction by SCBD or resource persons</li> <li>• Questions and answers and discussion in plenary</li> <li>• Individual exercises to prepare an outline of an executive summary with key substantive points</li> </ul>
12.30 a.m. – 2 p.m.		<i>Lunch break</i>
2 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.	<b>3</b>	<b>Preparation of the report (<i>continued</i>)</b> Time for all the country representatives to work further on draft chapters I, II, III, IV, appendix III and the executive summary with support of the Secretariat and resource persons
3.30 p.m. – 4 p.m.		<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
4 p.m. – 6 p.m.	<b>3.</b>	<b>Preparation of the report (<i>continued</i>)</b> Time for all the country representatives to work further on draft chapters I, II, III, IV, appendix III and the executive summary with support of the Secretariat and resource persons

**WEDNESDAY, 9 DECEMBER**

9 a.m. - 9.15 a.m.	<b>2.</b>	<b>Overview of the objectives and programme for the workshop (<i>continued</i>)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brief recap of day two and overview of plans for day three</li> </ul>
9.15 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	<b>4</b>	<b>Strategic biodiversity planning at national and regional level subregional diagnosis and national post-2010 regime</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction by IUCN Countdown 2010 and IUCN regional office</li> <li>• Mesoamerican countries will discuss about a sub-regional diagnosis based on draft reports, with the support of IUCN Countdown 2010 and IUCN regional office</li> <li>• Caribbean countries will continue to work individually with the Secretariat and resource persons to improve their draft reports</li> </ul>
10.30 a.m. – 11 a.m.		<i>Coffee/tea break</i>

11 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.	4.	<b>Strategic biodiversity planning at national and regional level subregional diagnosis and national post-2010 regime (continued)</b>
12.30 a.m. – 2 p.m.		<i>Lunch break</i>
2 p.m. – 4 p.m.	4.	<b>Strategic biodiversity planning at national and regional level-sub-regional diagnosis and national post-2010 regime (continued)</b>
4 p.m.- 4.30 p.m.		<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
4.30 p.m. – 6pm.	4.	<b>Strategic biodiversity planning at national and regional level subregional diagnosis and national post-2010 regime (continued)</b>

#### THURSDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2009

9 a.m. - 9.15 a.m.	2.	<b>Overview of the objectives and programme for the workshop (continued)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brief recap of day three and overview of plans for day four</li> </ul>
9.15 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	5.	<b>Possible vision, goals, targets and measures to be included in the updated Strategic Plan of the Convention</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introductions by SCBD on the processes (global and regional) of updating the Strategic Plan of the CBD as well as a summary of views received from Parties, observers, regional meetings and the science community</li> <li>• Introduction by SCBD of draft elements proposed for the updated Strategic Plan of the Convention</li> </ul> <p>Discussions in small groups on possible vision for 2020, possible goals, objectives and targets to be included in the updated Strategic Plan</p>
10.30 a.m. – 11 a.m.		<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
11 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.	5.	<b>Possible vision, goals, targets and measures to be included in the updated Strategic Plan of the Convention (continued)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussions in small groups on possible measures or mechanisms of implementation to be included in the updated Strategic Plan</li> <li>• Reports from different groups</li> </ul>
12.30 a.m. – 2 p.m.		<i>Lunch break</i>
2 p.m. – 4 p.m.	5.	<b>Possible vision, goals, targets and measures to be included in the updated Strategic Plan of the Convention (continued)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compilation of possible vision, goals, targets and measures based on inputs from different groups.</li> </ul>
4 p.m.- 4.30 p.m.		<i>Coffee/tea break</i>
4.30 p.m. – 6pm.	6.	<b>Conclusions: ways forward leading to 2010</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The economics of ecosystem services and biodiversity (IUCN Countdown 2010)</li> <li>• Countries to present their plans and steps for finalization of the fourth national report for timely submission by middle of January 2010</li> <li>• Consideration of key recommendations of the workshop</li> </ul>
	7.	<b>Closure of the workshop</b>

*Annex II*

**Proposed changes to headline targets for 2020 (suggestions or comments from group discussions)**

**Goal A**

Target 1: Parties adopt programmes of work to sensitize the general public on the value of biodiversity and the necessary actions need to be taken for its protection.

Target 2: Parties recognize and incorporate in their national development policies and plans the opportunities that derive from conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, particularly, where poverty reduction and human well-being is concerned.

Target 3: Parties reduce and where possible eliminate subsidies and perverse incentives that are harmful to biodiversity; while promoting beneficial instruments for its conservation and sustainable use.

Target 4 is split into two subtargets:

- Parties formulate and implement plans and measures for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity to ensure its efficiency and effectiveness.
- Parties enhance the compliance of the Strategic Plan through an adequate planning, generation and dissemination of knowledge, management and capacity development.

**Goal B**

Target 5. By 2020, deforestation and forest degradation, and the loss and degradation of other natural habitats reduced by 25%.

Target 6. By 2020, pressure on marine ecosystems through overfishing halved, and sustainable fishing practices fostered and applied by key actors.

Target 7. By 2020, areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are mainly managed according to sustainability criteria;

Target 8. By 2020, pollution from excess nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus) has been brought below critical ecosystem loads.

Target 9. By 2020, strategies are applied for the prevention, reduction, eradication and control of invasive species as well as for emerging infectious diseases affecting biodiversity. (SMART target to be developed at global and national levels).

Target 10. By 2020, agree points related to the climate change agenda and coordination of implementation activities to reduce the effects and impacts on biodiversity. (SMART target to be developed at global and national levels).

A new target is added, which reads:

By 2020, Efforts have been integrated in the management and expansion of Biosphere reserves, Ramsar sites, biological corridors and other types of protected areas, with the support and involvement of local communities and governments of various levels.

### **Goal C**

Overall most targets are not measurable or quantifiable, and not directly designed to achieve Goal C. No direct action is specified for achieving Target 12 and milestones need to be developed for this target. The same is with Target 13. Target 14 should be balanced with two factors considered: reducing climate change impacts on biodiversity and increasing biodiversity contributions to mitigating climate change impacts.

### **Goal D**

Target 16: By 2020, ... and coordination and funding mechanisms are in place to ensure implementation of the actions needed.

Target 17. Perspectives should be changed for formulating this target, and “fairly and equitably” should be added for “benefit-sharing”.

Target 18. By 2020, Traditional knowledge, innovations and practices associated with conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the rights of indigenous and local communities are protected.

Target 19. By 2020, Knowledge and technologies relating to biodiversity, its value and functioning, its status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, as well as its sustainable use, are improved and widely shared, and ....

*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  
Examples of Threat Analysis

**Threat / Menaces**

Ecosystems / Biodiversity Component		IAS	Habitat Change	Climate Change	Over-exploitation	Nutrients and pollution
	Islands	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
	Marine Coastal and	↗	↑	↑	↑	↑
	Coral Reefs	→	—	↑	↗	↑
	Upland Forest	→	↗	↗	↗	—
	Lowland Forest	→	↑	↑	↑	—
	Dry Forests	→	↗	↗	↗	—
	Wetlands (Mangrove)	→	↗	↗	↗	
	Watershed	↗	↑	↗	↗	
	Freshwater	↗	↗	↗	↗	

*Annex V*

**STATUS OF PREPARATION OF THE FOURTH NATIONAL REPORT (AS OF END OF NOV 2009)<sup>1</sup>**

1. GEF funding request has been submitted, or approved or funds have been received.
2. Organization assigned overall responsibility for report coordination and preparation has been identified.
3. Cross-sectoral steering committee has been established to:
  - Identify a representative group of biodiversity stakeholder organizations, including biodiversity-related conventions, who will participate in report preparation;
  - Establish a draft methodology for report preparation (e.g., face-to-face meetings, email exchanges, telephone conferences) and a draft timetable.
4. First general meeting of all above participants or national workshop has been convened to establish methodology, timetable, thematic working groups, etc.
5. Draft reports of thematic working groups have been submitted to the steering committee.
6. Steering committee has compiled a draft fourth national report and circulated it to all participants for comments.
7. Second general meeting or national workshop has been held to agree conclusions (chapter IV) of information provided by thematic working groups.
8. If outstanding items exist, a third general meeting may be convened to agree conclusions (if impossible, report should reflect where no consensus was reached).
9. Report has been adopted by all stakeholders (coordination among relevant departments completed).
10. Report has been submitted to relevant authorities for internal approval.
11. Report has been submitted to Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity.
12. Party has publicized to the general public the positive outcomes for biodiversity identified in the report, and the obstacles and challenges that remain.

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<sup>1</sup> The table below captures the status of those countries that have not submitted their reports. Costa Rica, Cuba and Mexico have submitted their reports.

<i>Countries</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>
<b>ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA<sup>2</sup></b>												
<b>BARBADOS<sup>3</sup></b>	→	→	→									
<b>BELIZE</b>												
<b>DOMINICAN REPUBLIC<sup>4</sup></b>												
<b>EL SALVADOR<sup>5</sup></b>												
<b>GUATEMALA<sup>6</sup></b>												
<b>HAITI</b>												
<b>HONDURAS</b>	→	→					→ <sup>7</sup>					
<b>PANAMA</b>	→	→										
<b>ST. LUCIA<sup>8</sup></b>	→	→	→	→								
<b>SVG</b>	→	→	→	→		→	→					
<b>TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO</b>	→	→										

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<sup>2</sup> Antigua and Barbuda indicated that it would aim to submit the report in February 2010.

<sup>3</sup> Consultant selected to start work in January 2010.

<sup>4</sup> Final draft is ready and will be submitted to the Secretariat soon.

<sup>5</sup> El Salvador indicated that it would try to complete before end of March 2010 though more coordination is needed among relevant departments.

<sup>6</sup> Final draft is ready and will be submitted to the Secretariat soon.

<sup>7</sup> Draft report has been presented to stakeholders for consultations and four regional workshops have been held.

<sup>8</sup> One consultant was hired to gather information for agencies to review. Two national workshops have been held in the north and south of the country to gather information to feed into the report. The report is being drafted by main consultant to be cleared by the steering committee. The draft report will be reviewed and then submitted to the Secretariat.



Annex VI

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS<sup>2</sup>**

***A. Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity***

**Antigua and Barbuda**

Ms. Delamine Claris Andrew

**Belize**

Mr. Marcelo Windsor

**Cuba**

Dra. Daysi Vilamajo Alberdi

**Dominican Republic**

Sra Mercedes Peguero

**Guatemala**

Lic Edgar Selvin Perez Perez

**Honduras**

Lic Sergio Midence

**Panama**

Mr. Dario Luque

**Saint Vincent and the Grenadines**

Ms. Yasa Belmar

**Barbados**

Mrs. Kim Downes Agard

**Costa Rica**

Mrs. Lesbia Sevilla Estrada

**Dominica**

Mr. Nigel Lawrence

**El Salvador**

Ms. Zulma Ricard de Mendoza

**Haiti**

Mr. Jean Hilaire Vilmond

**Mexico**

Mr. Hesiquio Benitez Diaz

Ms. Norma Alvarez Giard

**Saint Lucia**

Ms. Anita James

**Trinidad and Tobago**

Ms. Robyn Cross

***B. Organizations***

**UNEP Division of the Global Environment Facility**

Ms. Esther Mwangi

**UNEP Regional Office for Latin America and Caribbean**

Mr. Alex Pires

Mara Angelica Murillo Correa

Ms. Isabel Martinez

**IUCN Countdown 2010**

Ms. Elisa Calcaterra

Mr. Jorge Ventocilla

**IUCN regional office for Mesoamerica and Caribbean**

Mr. Jose Arturo Santos

Ms. Grettel Montero

Mr Arturo Mora

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<sup>2</sup>Some participants of a separate session for Mesoamerican countries on 9 December, referred to in paragraph 38 above, are not included here.

**Birdlife International (Ecuador)**

Dr. Amiro Perez-Leroux

**The CBD Secretariat**

Mr. David Cooper

Mr. Lijie Cai

Ms. Nadine Saad

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