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### SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

Ninth meeting

Montreal, 10-14 November 2003

Item 7 of the provisional agenda\*

### REPORT OF THE EXPERT MEETING ON THE GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR PLANT CONSERVATION

#### I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its sixth meeting, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted decision VI/9 on the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, which includes outcome-oriented global targets for 2010.

2. The Conference of the Parties requested the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA), *inter alia*, to develop ways and means, within the Convention's thematic and cross-cutting programmes of work, for promoting the implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, and for monitoring and assessing progress; and to report to the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting (decision VI/9, para. 10). Moreover, the further work required to develop and implement the Strategy, as described in the Strategy itself, includes the following:

(a) The development of national targets and their incorporation into national biodiversity strategies and action plans and other relevant plans, programmes and initiatives (para. 16);

(b) For each target, clarification of the scope of activities and development of sub-targets, or milestones, as necessary. Development of baseline data and a series of indicators in order to monitor progress towards achieving the targets (para. 17);

(c) Development of regional components of the Strategy, perhaps using a biogeographical approach (para. 18);

(d) Involvement of a range of actors in the design, development and implementation of the strategy, in addition to the Parties to the Convention, including: international initiatives, conservation and research organizations, communities and major groups including indigenous and local communities, governments and the private sector (para. 19); and

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\* UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/1.

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(e) Consideration to the establishment of a flexible coordination mechanism, in order to promote implementation of the Strategy and facilitate cooperation with existing initiatives, (para. 20).

3. The Executive Secretary convened in Cartagena, Colombia, on 11-12 October 2002, an informal liaison group meeting in order to provide guidance on the implementation and monitoring of the Strategy. The Group agreed on the need for a programme of stakeholder consultations and suggested a number of lead agencies to facilitate progress for the various targets. The Group also recommended that a second meeting be held in about September 2003 to consider progress reports of the stakeholder consultations and prepare advice for the further implementation of the Strategy, and to report to the Executive Secretary.

4. Accordingly, the Executive Secretary invited a number of organizations to facilitate stakeholder consultations on the various targets, including the development of sub-targets, milestones and indicators for the targets included in the Strategy, and the elaboration of a baseline data for monitoring.

5. In addition, the Executive Secretary invited a group of experts, to participate in an Expert Group Meeting that was held in Dingle, Co. Kerry, Ireland, from 5 to 7 October 2003. The meeting was organized in collaboration with the Botanic Gardens Conservation International and supported by HSBC Holdings plc, through its "Investing in Nature" partnership.

6. The objectives of the Expert Group meeting were to review progress in the stakeholder consultations and to prepare advice for the development and implementation of the Strategy in line with decision VI/9 and the further work set out in the Strategy itself.

## II. PROCEDURAL MATTERS

7. The Meeting was held in the Dingle Skellig Hotel, Dingle, Co. Kerry, Ireland. The meeting opened at 10 a.m. on Sunday, 5th October 2003.

8. Twenty experts participated in the meeting including representatives from Australia, Dominican Republic, Ireland, Malaysia, Mauritius, Poland, the Russia Federation, Spain and the following organizations: Botanic Gardens Conservation International, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the "Gran Canaria Group", International Plant Genetic Resources Institute, IUCN-The World Conservation Union, Plantlife International, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre and the World Fund for Nature (WWF). Additionally, the representative of Spain gave a report on behalf of the Chair of the Plant Committee of CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species).

9. The full list of participants is contained in annex I to the present report.

10. The participants were welcomed by Mr Matthew Jebb, representative of the Government of Ireland.

11. Mr. David Cooper welcomed participants on behalf of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity. He outlined the mandate of the group and reviewed the goals, objectives and expected outputs of the meeting.

12. Ms. Stella Simiyu (Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity/BGCI) described the background to the Strategy and provided an update on the major activities and achievements since the adoption of decision VI/9 on the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation.

13. Mr Peter Wyse Jackson, Secretary General, BGCI, welcomed participants on behalf of BGCI and thanked HSBC for its support in the organisation of the meeting.

14. The Group elected Mr. Stephen Blackmore (Director, Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh) as its Chair.
15. The provisional agenda prepared by the Executive Secretary was adopted as contained in annex II to the present report. In addition, at the request of some participants, the issue of funding for the Strategy was considered under “other matters”.
16. The Group worked in plenary.
17. Under agenda item 3, the organizations that had been facilitating stakeholder consultations presented overviews, for each of the targets 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12 and 13, of the status of the consultation process, and their main findings, which were then reviewed by the Group. Further information is contained in a number of background papers and drafts reports on the stakeholder consultations (see annex III below). A summary of these, as well as the observations of the Expert Group are provided in annex IV. Progress concerning targets 3, 14, 15, and 16, which had been considered in the stakeholder consultations as cross-cutting issues, were reviewed by the Expert Group under agenda item 4 (a). Also under agenda item 4, experts at the meeting nominated by their national governments presented overviews of their national level experiences in implementing the strategy (see annex V below). BGCI also presented experiences on their national-level projects in Brazil, China, India, and Indonesia that are contributing to the implementation of the strategy in these countries, and PlantLife International reported on a joint initiative with Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee of the United Kingdom, to develop a United Kingdom response to the Strategy.
18. The steps necessary for the further development and implementation of the Strategy were considered under agenda items 4 and 5.
19. The conclusions of the Expert Group were discussed and adopted under agenda item 7. The meeting was closed at 1.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 7 October, 2003.

### **III. CONCLUSIONS OF THE EXPERT GROUP**

#### ***A. Review of progress in implementation, and the way forward***

20. Several hundred stakeholders have been involved in consultations on the various targets of the Strategy, through a number of meetings, and through correspondence. Substantial progress has been made for many targets in elaborating sub-targets and milestones, clarifying baselines and identifying indicators. Annex IV provides a summary of the consultation process, the key points emerging from the consultation, the proposed sub-targets and milestones, key tools, resources, partners and related initiatives identified, as well as observations of the expert group.
21. A number of tools and other resources for the implementation of the Strategy have been identified in the course of the stakeholder consultations (annex IV). These should be made widely available through the clearing-house mechanism. This would contribute to the achievement of target 3. Further progress towards this target may be achieved by:
  - (a) Collating relevant tools and resources, including protocols, guidelines, standards etc developed at global, regional and national levels;
  - (b) Facilitating access to the relevant tools and resources, through the clearing-house mechanism and other means;
  - (c) Review and evaluation/ categorization by target of tools, and analysis of gaps;

- (d) Promoting development of new tools where necessary;
- (e) Facilitating field-testing of tools and adaptation to national needs, as necessary;
- (f) Development of international standards, where necessary, through appropriate mechanisms;
- (g) Organizations that have developed tools should be invited to take into consideration the needs of the Global Strategy when revising them.

22. The importance of target 14 was emphasized, and BGCI was invited to facilitate a stakeholder consultation, involving expertise in communication, education and public awareness. This would be linked to the Convention's Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) initiative. Targets 15 and 16 were well addressed during the stakeholder consultations. Financial resources would be needed to achieve target 15 in particular.

23. Consultations are still under way for a number of targets. A summary of the status of the stakeholder consultations is provided in annex IV. Once completed, the results of the stakeholder consultations will be made widely available, and a detailed plan for the Strategy as a whole will be compiled, indicating the links among the various targets. <sup>1/</sup>

24. It was noted that targets were related in various ways as: attainment of some targets would contribute to the attainment of others; monitoring of some targets was dependent on attainment of others and some targets shared data requirements. The following points were noted:

- (a) Full completion of target 2 depended on completion of target 1. It was considered that target 1 should be completed by 2008;

- (b) Monitoring of progress of targets 7 and 8 required progress to be achieved in target 2;

- (c) Targets 2, 4-8 had shared data requirements: overlay of species-based and area-based data would facilitate monitoring of progress towards this cluster of targets;

- (d) While all targets require action by national governments and stakeholders, this is particularly true of targets 4-7, 12, and 13. National enabling activities and capacity building are seen as vital to facilitate early progress on these targets in particular. These targets require national and local level planning and application of the ecosystem approach. Targets 3, 14, 15 and 16 all provide important entry points to the Strategy.

25. The outcome-oriented targets of the Strategy provide a commonly agreed framework for actions by a wide range of actors, and that implementation of Strategy requires a number of activities, each of which will contribute to the attainment of multiple targets. The interdependence of the targets, both for implementation and monitoring, is emphasized, as is the need to view the Strategy as a whole.

### ***B. Monitoring, indicators and baselines***

26. Current baseline information and indicators, while not perfect, are not a limit to progress in the implementation or monitoring of most of the targets. However, synthesis of data at the global level, necessary to reach a number of targets, would be facilitated by ensuring compatibility of approaches and

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<sup>1/</sup> Background information on this issue is provided in the information document that was available at the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties "A review of the scope, terminology, base-line information, technical and scientific rationale of the 16 targets included in the proposed Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, with particular reference to the quantitative elements they contain", UNEP/CBD/ COP/6/INF/21/Add.1.

data standards, whenever possible. No globally applicable indicators have yet been identified for target 13.

27. A coordinated approach to the monitoring of implementation of the targets of the Strategy at global level would allow more efficient use of data, for example by exploiting synergies between species-based and area-based data. UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre may usefully play a role in this regard.

### ***C. National-level implementation***

28. The development of national targets and their integration into national plans, programmes and activities could be facilitated by:

- (a) Documented case-studies of national implementation; <sup>2/</sup>
- (b) A checklist or guide to the establishment of national-level targets;
- (c) Integration of the targets of the Strategy into the reporting framework for the third and subsequent national reports;
- (d) Workshops on the Strategy for national focal points. These might be organized in conjunction with meetings of the Conference of the Parties, SBSTTA and regional meetings; and
- (e) National workshops to promote the full engagement of all relevant stakeholders at national level, and other capacity building activities at national level.

29. In addition, it is recommended that national focal points for the Strategy be developed to promote the participation of national stakeholders in the implementation and monitoring of the Strategy at national level.

30. It was proposed to hold a side-event at SBSTTA-9, in Montreal, November 2003, highlighting national experiences in implementing the Strategy, and to hold a one-day workshop for national focal points, back-to-back with the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, in Kuala Lumpur, February 2004.

### ***D. Regional components and networks***

31. There are various rationales for action at the regional level in support of the Strategy. Regional strategies should be developed where there are clear regional needs and demands. The recommendation of the Cartagena liaison group meeting that an analysis of existing regional initiatives and gaps be carried out was supported. <sup>3/</sup>

32. Examples of regional initiatives include: the SADC Plant Genetic Resources Network; SABONET; and the European Seed Bank Network (ENSCONET). Colombia has already developed a National Plant Conservation Strategy and plans are in place to expand this to include a regional approach

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<sup>2/</sup> These would build upon the background information on some existing initiatives relevant to this issue is provided in the information document that was available at the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties "Nationally based initiatives that can contribute to the implementation of the Strategy", UNEP/CBD/ COP/6/INF/21/Add.3., as well as other national initiatives such as those documented during the stakeholder consultations.

<sup>3/</sup> This would build upon the background information on some existing initiatives relevant to this issue is provided in the information documents that were available at the sixth meeting of the Conference of the parties "Examples of regional and international initiatives relevant to the 16 targets", UNEP/CBD/ COP/6/INF/21/Add.3, and "European Plant Conservation Strategy", UNEP/CBD/ COP/6/INF/22.

by 2004. Other networks exist in Latin America (e.g. El Grupo Etnobotanico Latinoamericano (GELA) and of the Latinamerican Botanical Association and the TRAMIL-Network (Programa de Investigacion Cientifica Aplicada de Plantas Medicinales)). The Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE) in Costa Rica is another important resource. Planta Europa is contributing to the Global Strategy through the European Plant Conservation Strategy.

33. Regional meetings, held in appropriate languages, could help promote understanding and implementation of the Strategy.

34. An international, including regional, dimension may be more important for some targets than others. For example, national activities on target 1 would not be sufficient for the completion of a global list of names.

#### ***E. Implementation through the programmes of work under the Convention***

35. The Strategy is to be implemented through the various thematic and cross-cutting programmes of the Convention. This requires integration of the various targets of the Strategy into these programmes of work, as envisaged in decision VI/9. The most relevant programmes of work for each target are identified in table 1. <sup>4/</sup>

36. In particular, there is a need to integrate: target 1 into the Global Taxonomy Initiative; targets 4 and 5 into the programme of work on protected areas; target 10 into work on invasive alien species; targets 11, 12 and 13 in the work on sustainable use; target 14 in into the programme for communication, education and public awareness; targets 9 and 13 into work on Article 8(j) and related provisions; and targets 6, 9 and 12 into the thematic programmes for agricultural biodiversity and forest biodiversity.

#### ***F. Role of the Strategy in contributing to the 2010 biodiversity target***

37. The Strategy is considered as a pilot approach for the use of outcome-oriented targets under the Convention (decision VI/9 of the Conference of the Parties, para. 9). Although the time since the adoption of the Strategy is still short, experience to date would suggest that the approach is feasible, and that it would be usefully extended to facilitate implementation of, and monitoring of progress towards, the target of achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biological diversity, adopted by decision VI/26. Regarding the lessons learned from the target setting exercise for the Strategy, it is suggested that there should be a focus on a small number of targets, and these should be simple to understand and thus readily communicated.

#### ***G. Role of Strategy in contributing to poverty alleviation and sustainable development***

38. Decision VI/9 stresses potential role of the strategy in contributing to poverty alleviation and sustainable development. Target 13 is particularly relevant in this respect. The key to demonstrating the linkages between biodiversity and poverty alleviation lies in communicating the importance of plants in our lives. Grass-root activities with rural communities in developing countries readily demonstrate the direct impact of plant diversity on poverty alleviation and sustainable development. Both the ecosystem approach and the sustainable livelihoods approach provide relevant frameworks for analysis, each addressing issues of vulnerability and resilience holistically. There is a need to bring together these two approaches and their associated communities.

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<sup>4/</sup> An analysis of the elements of the various programmes of work relevant to the Strategy was provided in the information document that was available at the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties: Opportunities for the implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation through the thematic and cross-cutting programmes of work of the Convention on Biological Diversity, UNEP/CBD/ COP/6/INF/21/Add.2. This document will be updated in the light of the new programmes developed since that date.

39. Indicators used in the Strategy, for example, the number of threatened species for which conservation is assured, are relevant to the environmental sustainability targets of the Millennium Development Goals and would be suitable for inclusion in that framework as additional indicators.

#### ***H. Raising awareness of the Strategy***

40. The need to raise awareness of the Strategy among the various stakeholder groups was emphasised. Opportunities for this include the organization of side-events and symposia at relevant meetings and workshops. Events will be organized at meetings of SBSTTA and the Conference of the Parties, as indicated above. Other important opportunities include: the meeting of the Conference of the Parties to Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in 2004; the 2004 IUCN World Conservation Congress; the UNEP Governing Council and Ministers Forum in 2004; and the annual meeting of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). Implementation of the strategy will be a major theme of the Second World Botanic Garden Congress, to be held in Barcelona in 2004. A symposium on the Strategy is being organized as part of the 2005 International Botanical Congress in Vienna, and other opportunities for symposia on the Strategy and its various targets, are being explored, for example at the 2006 Latin American Botanical Congress and various national botanical congresses.

41. Awareness would be promoted by the wider distribution of the Strategy in various languages. The Group welcomed the offer by the representatives of Spain to produce the brochure in Spanish and BGCI to produce a Russian version.

42. There is a need for a guide to the Strategy, or of a series of guides tailored to the various relevant constituencies.

#### ***I. Role of strategy in facilitating harmony between initiatives and range of actors***

43. The Strategy is providing a useful framework to bring together organizations and initiatives to meet common objectives. Various organizations are already working towards the respective targets, and where possible, they are incorporating actions towards achieving targets into existing work programmes. In the case of BGCI for example, the Strategy is seen as adding value to ongoing initiatives such as the International Agenda for Botanic Gardens in Conservation, while IUCN has incorporated the elements of the Strategy into its core plants programme and activities of the Species Survival Commission. In large organizations, sufficient time is required for the consultation process, to ensure the involvement and engagement from several different programmes of work. The need for wider partnerships was noted, and to achieve this, mechanisms by which a wider group of organisations could be involved in the process are needed, with the emphasis being given to a partnership approach within the Strategy as a whole, rather than a specific target-related involvement. It was therefore recommended that a global partnership for plant conservation be established, building upon the “Gran Canaria Group”, and open to all organizations that can contribute to the implementation of the Strategy.

44. One major challenge is to enhance further engagement by national partners at this time. As outlined above, it is recommended that national focal points for the Strategy be developed to promote the participation of national stakeholders in the implementation and monitoring of the Strategy at national level.

#### ***J. Funding of activities to implement the Strategy***

45. The Strategy has been catalytic in leveraging additional financial resources for plant conservation. For example, funds from HSBC have allowed BGCI to initiate a number of activities in various countries with a potential focus on targets 3, 8, 14, 15, 16, as well as supporting the development of the Strategy as a whole such as production of the brochure on the Strategy and support to liaison group and expert

meetings. Other initiatives are under way by IUCN and Plantlife to seek funding from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) for targets 2 and 5. The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, the New York Botanical Gardens and the Missouri Botanical Gardens have joined together to seek funding for an international collaborative venture to address target 1 and contribute to target 2. All these initiatives provide for the inclusion of key partners in developing countries.

46. At the national level, Australia is negotiating funding as part of a biodiversity initiative to fund the elements of the Strategy. Stakeholder consultations to support this process are ongoing at a national level. Other existing projects and initiatives of relevance to the Strategy include the SABONET, BOZONET, IPGRI-FAO GEF crop wild relatives projects and the recently established Global Crop Diversity Trust amongst others. There are a number of other initiatives underway to seek funds for implementation of Strategy from national, bilateral and multilateral agencies, from private foundations, and from the private sector.

47. There is a need to develop a coherent approach to funding the Strategy. In this context, it is proposed to:

(f) To develop an analysis of funding needs and opportunities;

(g) To seek to explain to potential donors the overall requirements for the implementation of the Strategy, so that individual applications for funding can be seen in context. A model presentation would be useful in this regard;

(h) To facilitate communication among potential funding applicants in order to encourage a coherent approach to the funding of the strategy as a whole and to enhance transparency and complementarities rather than duplication of efforts. The Programme Officer could play a useful role in this regard.

48. Priorities for funding might include the following:

(a) Key action at the national level, including help to:

(i) Establish national targets, plans and strategies;

(ii) Build capacity;

(iii) Ensure stakeholder engagement, especially representation of local communities;

(iv) Facilitate refinement and application at the national level of existing tools for implementation;

(b) Supporting activities at the international level, including:

(i) Development of tools for implementation, and their dissemination;

(ii) Monitoring of progress.

49. The Group welcomed the initiative of IUCN and Plantlife to develop a funding proposal to the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to promote elements of the strategy, with targets 2 and 5 as an entry point, and invited them to consider the following suggestions:

(a) Possible involvement of IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas and the UNEP-WCMC protected areas programme;

(b) Linkage with various ecoregional initiatives; and

- (c) Inclusion of target 4 as an entry point and strengthening of the linkages with target 7.

50. Other organizations, regional initiatives and parties were encouraged to develop funding proposals, including to GEF, focused on other complementary areas of the Strategy.

***K. Flexible coordination mechanism for the Strategy***

51. It is proposed that a flexible coordination mechanism be established by the Executive Secretary to facilitate and promote implementation and monitoring at all levels, comprising the following components:

- (a) Meetings of a Liaison Group;
- (b) National GSPC contact/focal points;
- (c) A global partnership for plant conservation comprising relevant international and national organizations;
- (d) The Secretariat, in particular the GSPC Programme Officer supported by BGCI.

52. As recommended by the Cartagena meeting, it is recommended that the composition of and convening of the Liaison Group should be kept flexible in order to involve relevant expertise to consider particular issues as they arise. The terms of reference and composition of the various components of the flexible coordination mechanism are provided in annex VI below.

53. It is envisaged that there would be a need for a liaison group meeting in 2004 to facilitate the implementation of the Strategy in light of the completion of the stakeholder consultations and the outcome of the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

54. It is proposed that the global partnership for plant conservation, supported by BGCI be designated a thematic focal point of the clearing-house mechanism for the Strategy to facilitate the diffusion of tools and best practices on the Strategy and communication among the stakeholders.

55. It is proposed that the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre be invited to support the Executive Secretary in monitoring implementation of the strategy, working in collaboration with the global partnership for plant conservation.

*Annex I***LIST OF PARTICIPANTS****AUSTRALIA**

Dr. Kingsley Dixon  
 Director  
 Science Directorate  
 Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority Kings Park and  
 Botanic Garden  
 West Perth, 6005  
 Western Australia  
 Tel. +61 8 9321 7332  
 Fax: + 61 8 9322 5064  
 E-mail: kdixon@kpbg.wa.gov.au

Fax: + 603-8948 7639  
 E-mail: salma@mardi.my

**MAURITIUS**

Mr. Vishnuduth Bachraz  
 Research and Development Officer (Wildlife)  
 National Parks & Conservation Service  
 Réduit,  
 Mauritius  
 Fax: + (230) 465 1184  
 Email: [npcsagr@intnet.mu](mailto:npcsagr@intnet.mu), [npcs@mail.gov.mu](mailto:npcs@mail.gov.mu)

**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

Dr. Sonia Lagos-Witte  
 TRAMIL-Regional Coordinator  
 for Central America  
 President of the Latin American  
 Botanical Association (ALB)  
 c/o Jardin Botanico Nacional  
 Departamento de Botanica  
 Apdo Postal 21-9  
 Santo Domingo  
 Dominican Republic  
 Tel: +1 809 3852611 ext 224  
 Fax: +1 809 6833762  
 Email: tramilca@codetel.net.do

**POLAND**

Ms. Renata Kurzyna-Mlynik  
 Plant Breeding and Acclimatisation Institute  
 Department of Nature Protection  
 Ministry of the Environment  
 Warsaw,  
 Poland  
 Tel.: + 48 22 5792 405  
 Fax: + 48-22 5792 555  
 E-mail: [renata.kurzyna-mlynik@mos.gov.pl](mailto:renata.kurzyna-mlynik@mos.gov.pl)

**IRELAND**

Dr. Matthew Jebb,  
 Taxonomist  
 National Botanic Gardens,  
 Glasnevin, Dublin 9  
 Republic of Ireland  
 Tel: + 353 1 8040329  
 Fax: + 353 1 8360080  
 Email: mjebb@duchas.ie

**RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

Ms. Galina Pronkina  
 IUCN-CIS project coordinator  
 17 Marshal Vasilevsky str.,  
 Moscow, 123182,  
 Russian Federation  
 Tel.: +7 095 190 46 55  
 e-mail: pronkins@iucn.ru

**MALAYSIA**

Dr. Salma Idris  
 Research Officer  
 Strategic Resource Research Centre  
 Malaysia Agricultural Research and Development  
 Institute (MARDI)  
 P.O. Box 12301  
 50774 Kuala Lumpur  
 Tel: + 603-8943 7426

**SPAIN**

Dr. Enriqueta Martín Consuegra and Dr. Esteban  
 Hernández Bermejo  
 C/o Maite Martín-Crespo  
 Subdirección General de Conservación de la  
 Biodiversidad  
 Dirección General de Conservación de la Naturaleza  
 Punto Focal del Convenio sobre la Diversidad  
 Biológica  
 Ministerio de Medio Ambiente  
 Gran Vía de San Francisco, 4  
 Madrid 28005- España  
 Tel: +34-91 596 4694  
 Fax: +34-91 596 4873

**INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS****BOTANIC GARDENS CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL**

Dr. Stephen Blackmore FRSE  
 Regius Keeper (Director)  
 Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh  
 20 a Inverleith Row  
 Edinburgh EH3 5LR  
 Scotland,  
 UK  
 Fax +44 131 248 2903  
 E-mail: [s.blackmore@rbge.org.uk](mailto:s.blackmore@rbge.org.uk)

**GRAN CANARIA GROUP**

Dr David Bramwell  
 Director  
 Jardín Botánico Viera y Clavijo  
 Las Palmas de Gran Canaria  
 Canary Islands, Spain  
 Tel: +34 928 219582  
 Fax: +34 928 219581  
 e-mail: [dbramwell@granca.step.es](mailto:dbramwell@granca.step.es)  
[dbramwell@grancanaria.com](mailto:dbramwell@grancanaria.com)

**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BOTANIC GARDENS**

Dr. Esteban Hernández Bermejo  
 Jardín Botánico de Córdoba  
 Avda. de Linneo s/n  
 Córdoba  
 Spain  
 Tel: 957200077  
 Fax: 957295333  
 Email: [jardinbotcord@telefonica.net](mailto:jardinbotcord@telefonica.net)

**INTERNATIONAL PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES INSTITUTE**

Dr Ehsan Dulloo  
 International Plant Genetic Resources Institute  
 (IPGRI)  
 Via dei Tre Denari 472/a  
 00057 Maccarese (Fiumicino)  
 Rome  
 Italy  
 Tel: + 39 06 6118.1  
 Fax: + (39 06 6197 9661  
 E-mail: [e.dulloo@cgiar.org](mailto:e.dulloo@cgiar.org)

**IUCN-THE WORLD CONSERVATION UNION**

Dr. Jean-Christophe Vié

Deputy Coordinator  
 Species Programme  
 IUCN – The World Conservation Union  
 Rue Mauverney, 28  
 CH-1196 Gland, Switzerland  
 Tel: +41 22 999 0152  
 Fax: + 41 22 999 0015  
 E-mail: [jean-christophe.vie@iucn.org](mailto:jean-christophe.vie@iucn.org)

**PLANTLIFE INTERNATIONAL / PLANTA EUROPA**

Dr Jane Smart  
 Chief Executive  
 Plantlife International  
 14 Rolleston Street  
 Salisbury  
 SP1 1DX  
 Tel : +44 1722 342745  
 Fax : +44 1722 329035  
 e-mail : [jane.smart@plantlife.org.uk](mailto:jane.smart@plantlife.org.uk)

**ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS KEW**

Dr. Eimear Nic Lughadha  
 Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew  
 Richmond,  
 Surrey,  
 TW9 3AB,  
 UK  
 Tel: +44 20-8332-5229 (dir.) + 44 20-8332-5112  
 Fax: + 44 20-8332-5278 (dir.) + 44 020-8332-5109  
 E-mail: [E.Lughadha@rbgkew.org.uk](mailto:E.Lughadha@rbgkew.org.uk)

**UN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANISATION (FAO)**

Ms. Linda Collette  
 Senior Officer  
 Agriculture Department  
 Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)  
 Viale delle Terme di Caracalla  
 I-00100 Rome, Italy  
 Tel: + 39 06 5705 2089  
 Fax: +39 06 5705 3152 / 533 69

E-mail: [linda.collette@fao.org](mailto:linda.collette@fao.org)

**UNEP - WORLD CONSERVATION MONITORING CENTRE**

Dr Tim Johnson  
 UNEP – World Conservation Monitoring Centre  
 219 Huntingdon Road

Cambridge CB3 0DL  
U.K.  
Tel: 44 1223 277 314  
Fax: 44 1223 277 136  
e-mail: [tim.johnson@unep-wcmc.org](mailto:tim.johnson@unep-wcmc.org)

**WWF INTERNATIONAL**

Dr Alan Hamilton  
WWF-UK  
Panda House, Weyside Park  
Catteshall Lane, Godalming  
Surrey GU7 1XR  
UK  
Fax : + 44 1483 426409  
E-mail : [AHamilton@wwf.org.uk](mailto:AHamilton@wwf.org.uk)

**RESOURCE PERSONS**

**SCBD**

Dr David Cooper  
CBD Secretariat  
World Trade Centre  
393 St Jacques St  
Office 300  
Montreal Quebec  
Canada  
H2Y 1N9  
Tel: 1 514 288 2220  
Fax: 1 514 288 6588  
Email: [david.cooper@biodiv.org](mailto:david.cooper@biodiv.org)

**SCBD/BGCI**

Ms Stella Simiyu  
National Museums of Kenya  
PO Box 30158  
Nairobi  
Kenya  
E-mail: [simiyu@insightkenya.com](mailto:simiyu@insightkenya.com)  
Tel: +254 2 742 131/ 4  
Work E-mail: [simiyu@insightkenya.com](mailto:simiyu@insightkenya.com)  
At BGCI, UK ([Stella.Simiyu@bgci.org](mailto:Stella.Simiyu@bgci.org))

**BGCI**

Dr Peter Wyse Jackson  
Secretary General  
Botanic Gardens Conservation International  
Descanso House  
199 Kew Road  
Richmond, Surrey  
TW9 3BW, UK  
Tel +44 (0)208 332 5953  
Fax: +44 (0)208 332 5956  
Email: [pwj@bgci.rbgkew.org.uk](mailto:pwj@bgci.rbgkew.org.uk)

Ms Suzanne Sharrock  
Botanic Gardens Conservation International  
Descanso House  
199 Kew Road  
Richmond, Surrey  
TW9 3BW, UK  
Tel +44 (0)208 332 5953  
Fax: +44 (0)208 332 5956  
Email: [suzanne.sharrock@bgci.org](mailto:suzanne.sharrock@bgci.org)

*Annex II*

**AGENDA**

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Organizational matters
  - 2.1. Election of officers
  - 2.2. Adoption of the agenda
  - 2.3. Organization of work
3. Review of progress in the stakeholder consultations
4. Preparation of advice for the development and implementation of the Strategy:
  - (a) The development of a “road-map” for implementation of the Strategy and its constituent targets, including the identification of sub-targets and milestones as needed;
  - (b) Identification of baseline data and indicators to monitor the progress towards achieving the targets;
  - (c) The development of national targets and their incorporation into national biodiversity strategies and action plans and other relevant plans, programmes and initiatives;
  - (d) The development of regional components of the Strategy;
  - (e) Identification of ways and means, within the Convention's thematic and cross-cutting programmes of work, for promoting implementation of the Strategy, and for monitoring and assessing progress;
  - (f) Review of the potential role of the Strategy in contributing to the attainment of the 2010 Biodiversity target and in monitoring progress towards its attainment;
  - (g) Review of the potential role of the Strategy in contributing to poverty alleviation and sustainable development, including the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit and the Millennium Development Goals;
  - (h) Identification of needs and opportunities for raising awareness of the Strategy and for communication and information; and
  - (i) Assessment of the role of the Strategy in facilitating harmony between initiatives and range of actors involved in the Strategy and identification of any gaps.
5. Consideration of the establishment and operation of a flexible coordination mechanism.
6. Other matters.
7. Adoption of the report.
8. Closure of the meeting.

*Annex III***LIST OF DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE TO THE EXPERT GROUP****A. Working documents****A1. Notes by the Executive Secretary**

UNEP/CBD/EG-GSPC/1/1	Provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/EG-GSPC/1/1/Add.1	Annotations to the provisional agenda
Decision VI/9 of the Conference of the Parties	Global Strategy for Plant Conservation
UNEP/CBD/LG-GSPC/1/2	Report on the Liaison Group Meeting on the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (11-12 October, 2002, Cartagena, Colombia).

**A2. Background papers and reports of the stakeholder consultations prepared by lead agencies.**

*Note that some of these papers are drafts under development.*

Stakeholder consultation on target 1: A widely accessibly working list of known plant species, as a step towards a complete world flora. Document prepared by Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

Stakeholder consultation on target 2: A preliminary assessment of the conservation status of all known plant species, at national, regional and international levels. Document prepared by IUCN.

Stakeholder consultation on target 4 : At least 10% of the world's ecological regions conserved. Document prepared by the World Wide Fund for Nature - WWF.

Stakeholder consultation on target 5: Protection of 50 per cent of the most important areas for plant diversity assured. Document prepared by PlantLife International in collaboration with IUCN.

Background paper for the implementation of target 6: At least 30 per cent of production lands managed consistent with the conservation of plant diversity. Draft document prepared by FAO and IPGRI.

Background paper for the implementation of target 7: 60 per cent of the world's threatened species conserved *in situ*. Document prepared by WCMC.

Stakeholder consultation on target 8: 60% of threatened plant species in accessible ex situ collections, preferably in the country of origin, and 10% of them included in recovery and restoration programmes. Document prepared by BGCI and IPGRI

Background paper for the implementation of target 9: 70 per cent of the genetic diversity of crops and other major socio-economically valuable plant species conserved, and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained. Draft document prepared by FAO and IPGRI.

Report of the CITES Plant Committee on implementation of target 11: No species of wild flora endangered by international trade, and other relevant targets of the Strategy:

Background paper for the implementation of target 12: 30 per cent of plant-based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed. Draft document prepared by FAO and IPGRI.

Background paper for the implementation of target 13: The decline of plant resources, and associated indigenous and local knowledge, innovations and practices that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, halted. Draft document prepared by FAO with IPGRI and People and Plants International.

**B. Background documents**

**B1. Information documents available at the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties**

UNEP/CBD/ COP/6/INF/21/Add.1	A review of the scope, terminology, base-line information, technical and scientific rationale of the 16 targets included in the proposed Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, with particular reference to the quantitative elements they contain
UNEP/CBD/ COP/6/INF/21/Add.2	Opportunities for the implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation through the thematic and cross-cutting programmes of work of the Convention on Biological Diversity
UNEP/CBD/ COP/6/INF/21/Add.3	Nationally based initiatives that can contribute to the implementation of the Strategy
UNEP/CBD/ COP/6/INF/21/Add.4	Examples of regional and international initiatives relevant to the 16 targets
UNEP/CBD/ COP/6/INF/22	European Plant Conservation Strategy

**B2. Documents for the ninth meeting of SBSTTA**

UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/14	Integration of outcome-oriented targets into the programmes of work of the Convention, taking into account the 2010 biodiversity target, the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, and relevant targets set by the World Summit on Sustainable Development
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Draft report of the meeting “2010—The Global Biodiversity Challenge

*Annex IV***REVIEW OF PROGRESS IN STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATIONS RELATING TO EACH TARGET OF THE STRATEGY****Target 1****“A widely accessible working list of known plant species, as a step towards a complete world flora”***Organization facilitating the stakeholder consultation:*

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, United Kingdom

*Consultation process*

The consultation was mainly carried out electronically. Over 100 stakeholders were contacted by email and approximately 80 responded. In addition, side events were organised at relevant meetings in Brazil and Addis Ababa and a consultation meeting was held with a delegation from the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences during a visit to Kew. Stakeholders were asked to comment on a draft report and there was a high degree of agreement amongst the responses the received.

*Key points from report*

The reliance of other GSPC targets on data generated by Target 1 gives this target a special status in the strategy, and in this respect, the Target of 2008 to complete the checklist is important. Data elements to be included in the checklist have been identified and it is agreed that the list should be an electronic product available on the internet. Baseline data are available mainly on a national or regional basis, and significant gaps occur in the coverage of biodiverse tropical areas.

*Key tools and resources identified in report*

- Species 2000 (unpublished metadatabase)
- Regional lists: e.g: List of East African Plants; Vascular plants of Russia and adjacent countries; Moss flora of Central America
- Flora projects e.g: Flora Neotropica; Flora Malesiana; Flora Zambesiaca; Flora of Tropical; East Africa; Flore de Madagascar et des Comores; Flora Mesoamericana
- National checklists e.g: Peru; Ecuador; Guianas; China, Malaya; Senegal; Brazil; Southern Africa (through SABONET)
- Specific publications – Frodin D.G. (2001) – Guide to standard floras of the world World Checklist and Bibliography Series (Araceae, Euphorbiaceae, Fagales, Magnoliaceae, Sapoteceae etc.)

*Key partners/related initiatives*

- Missouri Botanical Garden, New York Botanical Garden, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew International Collaborative Initiative.
- IOPI
- ECAT programme (Electronic catalogue of names of known organisms) of GBIF (Global Biodiversity Information Facility)
- Species 2000/ITIS consortium
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- Networks – BIONET
- New York Botanical Garden and Missouri Botanical Garden – international collaborative venture with RBG Kew

*Proposed sub-targets and milestones*

- a. Metadatabase on accepted names list updated and published by April 2004 (Species 2000/ITIS; ECAT-GBIF)
- b. Euro and Med checklist – A working list of all known European plant species by 2004
- c. Meeting convened in mid-2004 to (i) agree a flexible coordination mechanism for Target 1, (ii) identify gaps, (iii) address issues of ownership and maintenance of data.
- d. Review of progress at the International Botanical Congress – 2005
- e. 50% completion by 2005
- f. Stakeholders recommend agreement on ongoing maintenance programme – 2008

*Observations of Expert Group*

***The high degree of linkage between Targets 1 and 2 was noted by the Group. It was agreed that the checklist should be made available electronically in incomplete form as soon as possible. The importance of including geographic distribution information and an indication of the rarity or threat as data elements for the checklist was noted.***

**Target 2**

**“A preliminary assessment of the conservation status of all known plant species, at national, regional and international levels”.**

*Organization facilitating the stakeholder consultation:*

IUCN – World Conservation Union

*Consultation process*

Over 200 stakeholders were contacted by e-mail and invited to send their responses to four questions in order to compile base-line data on national, regional, and global plant conservation assessments. They were also asked to comment on the scope of activities of the target, draft sub-targets and milestones for the target, and the development of a series of indicators for monitoring progress. The results were then discussed at the IUCN/SSC Plant Conservation Committee, which took place from September 6-7 in Durban, South Africa. The results of this meeting and information received via email has been compiled and presented in this report. 67 people from 32 countries contributed to the consultation. However, given the short timeframe to collect this data, both the comments as well as the base-line information must be considered as draft.

*Key points from report*

The scope of the target was generally accepted as “all plant species”, which includes vascular plants, bryophytes and possibly lichens. It was stressed that the full scientific name for any assessment needed to be included to take into account changing taxonomic concepts. The word “preliminary” has caused interesting discussion with the general agreement that there needs to be a “first cut” by dividing all described plant species as either “not threatened” or “threatened or “potentially threatened”. It was also suggested that plant groups prioritised for assessment should include those of economic and cultural importance, endemics and phylogenetically unique species.

*Key tools and resources identified in report*

- IUCN Red Lists
- National Red Lists
- Sub-national Red Lists
- specimen-based preliminary conservation assessments

*Key partners/related initiatives*

- IUCN – World Conservation Union

- CAMP (conservation and management planning) process – SSC
- RBG Kew and Missouri BG –specimen-based preliminary conservation assessments
- Missouri Botanical Garden, New York Botanical Garden, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew International Collaborative Initiative.

*Proposed sub-targets and milestones*

- a. A simple document on “how to use the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria” produced and distributed to all undertaking plant conservation assessments by 2003.
- b. A status report on all national Red Lists and taxonomic Red Lists (a sort of “matrix”) available by 2003.
- c. Agreement by all institutions that all newly described species should be given a conservation assessment (through the International Association of Plant Taxonomists, by 2004). A proposal to amend the Code of Botanical Nomenclature at the next International Botanical Congress in Vienna in 2006 was also suggested in this context.
- d. Inclusion in all capacity-building projects on plants, instruction on how to undertake plant conservation assessments (by 2004).
- e. Establishment by 2005 of a formal mechanism at national level for the provision of taxonomic expertise to those undertaking conservation assessments.
- f. Re-evaluation of all species included in the 1997 Red List and the 1998 - World List of Threatened Trees using the 2001 IUCN Criteria by 2006.
- g. Regional Red List training workshops to cover all countries without a national Red List by 2006.
- h. Review of progress at International Botanical Congress in Vienna in 2005.
- i. All IUCN/SSC Plant Specialist Groups to maintain a working Red List for their groups by 2007.
- j. Every country to have a working national Red List by 2008 available on the Web and in printed form.
- k. All country endemic species assessed using IUCN Criteria by 2008.
- l. Regional workshops and e-mail discussion groups to harmonise the conservation status of all non-national regional endemics completed by 2009.
- m. Preliminary global consolidation by 2009.

*Observations of Expert Group*

***Discussion on Target 2 focused on the nature of the ‘first cut’ conservation assessment. It was explained that it was not intended to use the full IUCN assessment for this ‘first cut’. The large number of milestones was noted, with a focus on capacity building. The meeting agreed that capacity building will play an important role in ensuring the achievement of this target, as well as others within the GSPC. However, it was also noted that progress towards the target is not necessarily dependent on every milestone being met. It was suggested that an alternative approach to this target could be through the use of a spreadsheet, in close collaboration with those working on Target 1, whereby the checklist of plants would be assessed against any known listings for each species, rather than creating new categories. The importance of encouraging on-going activities by Parties was noted and it was recommended that the process should be kept simple and focused.***

**Target 4**

**“At least 10 per cent of each of the world’s ecological regions effectively conserved”**

*Organization facilitating the stakeholder consultation:*

World Wide Fund for Nature

*Consultation process*

A draft report was compiled and sent to stakeholders for comment. Further consultations were held during the World Park Congress in September 2003 and additional national consultations took place in Kenya, Uganda and Colombia.

*Key points from report*

The focus of Target 4 should be the local ecosystem, seen as embedded in the wider ecological, cultural, social and political contexts. The key to the planning process is systematic conservation planning, which involves, amongst others, the recognition of habitat types, assessment of conservation values, identification of gaps in representation and the development of systems to improve the effectiveness of conservation.

*Key tools and resources identified in report*

- Rapid assessment and prioritisation of protected area management methodology
- IUCN protected area categories
- UNEP-WCMC global database on protected areas
  
- *Key partners/related initiatives* World Wide Fund for Nature
- World Commission on Protected Areas
- IUCN
- UNESCO – World Heritage, Man and the Biosphere
- World Protected Area Leadership forum

*Proposed sub-targets and milestones*

- a. Sub-target 1 (by December 2010): All terrestrial ecological regions to be the subject of systematic conservation planning (engaging governmental institutions and civil society organizations).
  - Milestone (by December 2006): 50% of ecological regions to be subject to systematic conservation planning. This is contingent on development of a global system for recognition of ecological regions (sub-target 6). Indicator: Parties report to CBD.
- b. Sub-target 2 (by December 2010): Key sites for new protected areas identified and processes initiated for their designation.
  - Milestone (by December 2006): Major sites for new protected areas identified in 50% of ecological regions and processes for their designation initiated. Indicators: Parties report to CBD; sites indicated on maps; field visits to proposed sites.
- c. Sub-target 3 (related to Target 3) (by December 2010): Lessons' learning systems for conservation planning and implementation developed for all ecological regions.
  - Milestone (by December 2005): Regional meetings held covering 50% of ecological regions, to cover all major in situ targets of the GSPC (4, 5, 7 and 13) to develop lessons learning systems, identify key training needs (Target 15) and promote networking (Target 16). Indicators: Records of meetings. Means of co-operation established.
- d. Sub-target 4 (related to Target 15) (by December 2010): Training programmes to be instigated as necessary to meet T4.
  - Milestone (by December 2005): Training programmes for inter-disciplinary professions able to work practically at the people/plant interface operational in 50% of ecoregions. Indicator: Existence of programmes; interviews with staff and students.
- e. Sub-target 5 (related to Target 16) (by December 2010): Networks developed as necessary to meet the needs of T4.
  - Milestone (by December 2005): Regional networks for plant conservation operational for 50% of ecological regions. Indicator: Existence of active networks; productive meetings.

- f. Sub-target 6 (by December 2010): International standards as needed for T4 developed.
- o Milestone (by December 2005): The Secretariat of the CBD to instigate meetings to develop international standards on: (1) international categories of protected areas; (2) international measures of the management effectiveness of protected areas; and (3) recognition of ecological regions. Organizations which should be consulted include inter alia IUCN (including the World Commission on Protected Areas), UNEP-WCMC, WWF (including WWF Colombia Programme Office regarding systems to improve protected area effectiveness) and Conservation International (not an exhaustive list). Indicator: Records of meetings. At least a provisional global classification of ecological regions should be produced (to allow global monitoring).

*Observations of Expert Group*

***There is a clear need for close collaboration with other in situ Targets and the particular focus should be on increasing representivity of protected areas across ecoregions, and effectiveness of conservation measures. In relation to this and other related Targets (5, 6, 7, 13), which involve landscape management, proactive leadership by Parties is essential for progress to be made. The activities of this target need to be carried out through the Programme of Work on Protected Areas, currently under development. The idea of regional and national workshops as a stimulus was suggested, but the difficulties of being able to include all the relevant players was recognised. The training needs in relation to eco-regional planning were also noted. A list of ecoregional initiatives with supplementary information about how these initiatives are addressing GSPC targets could provide a useful baseline.***

**Target 5**

**“Protection of 50 per cent of the most important areas for plant diversity assured”**

*Organizations facilitating the stakeholder consultation:*

Plantlife International and IUCN – the World Conservation Union

*Consultation process*

The formal stakeholder consultation on target 5 has taken place through a series of meetings involving over 500 stakeholders from around the world, culminating with the Target 5 Global Stakeholder Meeting held on September 10th 2003 at the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress, Durban, South Africa. Consultation has also take place by means of email and the circulation of a short leaflet explaining the GSPC target 5, and inviting comment. National and regional meetings will continue beyond this consultation period.

Additional stakeholder meetings at which the implementation of this target has been discussed include:

- Central and Eastern European national Important Plant Area workshops held in Romania, Czech Republic, Poland, Belarus, Slovakia, Estonia and Slovenia between 17th January and 23rd March 2003
- South Eastern Europe preliminary Important Plant Areas meeting, Bulgaria, July 2002
- Planta Europa Steering Committee meeting Bratislava, Slovakia 25 May 2003
- Global Strategy for Plant Conservation and Important Plant Areas Workshop, Wellington, New Zealand convened by John Sawyer of the Department of Conservation, N.Z.
- Joint IUCN and Plantlife International Mediterranean workshop, IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation, Malaga, Spain 28-29 June 2003
- IUCN Plant Conservation Committee workshop discussion, Durban, South Africa, 7 Sept 2003
- Plenary presentation and discussion – ‘Building comprehensive protected area systems’ Vth IUCN World Parks Congress, Durban, South Africa, 12 Sept 2003

*Key points from report*

A modus operandi for the identification and protection of important plant areas has emerged involving implementation of programmes at a national level with regional coordination using an existing globally consistent approach. Considerable baseline data on the world's important plant areas exists which has not yet been collated in a way that can be easily used for conservation purposes. This target provides a framework through which this data can be collated and combined with existing national and regional initiatives to support national and regional conservation policy, whilst at the same time gaps in current plant conservation programmes can be identified and addressed.

*Key tools and resources identified in report*

- Guidelines for identification of IPAs in Europe

*Key partners/related initiatives*

- Plantlife International
- IUCN – the World Conservation Union, including through the IUCN SSC 2000 Plant Conservation Programme
- Key Biodiversity Areas approach
- Important Bird Areas programme of Birdlife International
- 

*Proposed sub-targets and milestones*

- a. Suggested Sub target 1: A framework for the implementation of this target established in all world regions by the end of 2004. Suggested Regional Milestones: Workshops on Important Plant Areas completed in all UN regions. Globally consistent criteria refined for application in all UN regions
- b. Suggested Sub target 2: A national inventory of Important Plant Areas completed by all Parties by 2007. Suggested National Milestones: Important Plant Area projects included in National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans. Teams of experts involving all appropriate plant experts and conservation stakeholders established. Existing national data collated. Gap analysis completed. Field work completed. National inventory published
- c. Suggested Sub-target 3: Appropriate management and/or protection plans in place for 50% of Important Plant Areas by 2008 . Suggested National Milestones: Team of protected area/land management stakeholders established. Assessment of protection needs for Important Plant Areas completed. Assessment of protected area status of each Important Plant Area completed. Standardised management plans completed.

*Observations of Expert Group*

***The need to recognise that the most important areas for plant conservation may be identified by Parties under terms other than “Important Plant Areas” (such as sites of scientific interest, special areas of conservation etc.) was noted. Additionally there are informal or local-community-based systems of protection (sacred groves etc.). It was emphasized that the process of identifying important areas for plant conservation should be focused on the local and national levels and build upon existing local and national systems.***

**Target 6**

**“At least 30 per cent of production lands managed consistent with the conservation of plant diversity.”**

*Organization facilitating the stakeholder consultation:*

FAO in collaboration with the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI)

*Consultation process*

A background paper to be used for the stakeholder consultation has been developed and circulated internally within FAO and IPGRI. The wider consultation process for this target will be initiated in October 2003.

*Key points from report*

The background paper aims to facilitate the measurement of progress towards Target 6. Discussions pertain to: clarifying the scope of the target; establishing baselines; and establishing sub-targets, milestones and indicators of progress towards the target over time. Issues of particular relevance requiring discussion include the definition of the terms “productive lands” and “management consistent with conservation of plant diversity”. The issue of the relationship between management and plant diversity is also raised.

*Key tools and resources identified in report*

- Report on the State of the World’s PGRFA
- World Information and Early Warning System (WIEWS) database
- FAO’s forest resources assessment
- Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management
- International certification of sustainable forest management and forest products
- World of Organic Agriculture 2003
- Various FAO databases and maps

*Partners/related initiatives*

- FAO
- IPGRI
- Global Plan of Action for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (PGRFA)
- International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM)
- IFOAM – International Organic Accreditation Service
- Programme of work on Agricultural Biodiversity of the CBD
- Intergovernmental Panel on Forests
- Intergovernmental Forum on Forests
- Expanded programme of work on Forest biological diversity of the CBD
- FAO UNEP GEF Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands (LADA) project
- FAO’s grasslands and pastures working group
- Centre International de Hautes Etudes Agronomiques Méditerranéennes (CIHEAM)

*Proposed sub-targets and milestones*

Sub-targets can be defined as the different production lands that are consistent with the conservation of plant diversity that are defined under the scope of the target, such as:

- a. Sub-target 1: Cultivated land
- b. Sub-target 2: Forests designated for wood production
- c. Sub-target 3: Pastureland and range

Sub-targets can also be related to the base-line data, e.g. for crop lands - for example, a sub-target can be 10% certified and 30% “managed consistent with plant diversity”.

The necessary next step to develop sub-targets is to develop a list of criteria to define production lands that are managed consistent with the conservation of plant diversity.

*Observations of Expert Group*

*The stakeholder consultation process is still ongoing for this target. A stakeholder meeting on this topic would be desirable, provided funds are available. The reporting burden on Parties was considered an important point and it was recommended that data/information already available should be used whenever possible. The question as to how to achieve a balance between agriculture and forestry was raised. It has been suggested that there should be two areas of focus: (i) promoting actions and (ii) monitoring. There is a need to also look at areas such as horticultural trade and medicinal plant trade as well as agriculture and forestry.*

#### **Target 7**

**“60 per cent of the world’s threatened species conserved in situ.”**

*Organization facilitating the stakeholder consultation:*  
UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre

#### *Consultation process*

Preliminary consultations have been held with a limited number of stakeholders. The issues defined during this consultation are presented in a draft document, which will be used as the basis for wider discussion. The wider consultation process will be used to refine the thinking on both the issues and the proposed solutions to these, as well as to identify clear next steps.

#### *Key points from report*

Progress on this aspect of Target 7 is intimately connected with the achievement of Target 2 (assessment of the conservation status of all plants). Because of the size of the task, evaluation of species conservation status will need to be targeted first at groups of priority species and discussions are on-going as to how these may be identified. Other issues under discussion include the definition of in situ conservation, assessing the in situ status of species and monitoring progress towards the target.

#### *Key tools, resources and partner initiatives identified in report*

Red Lists

Distribution maps from taxonomic and floristic accounts combined with habitat or land cover maps

World Database on Protected Areas

#### *Proposed sub-targets and milestones*

These might include:

- a. Determine which of the species that are currently considered threatened are conserved in situ and which are not
- b. Determine which species that are currently considered threatened occur in protected areas of different management categories
- c. Determine what fraction of protected areas have been inventoried floristically
- d. Determine what fraction of protected areas have management plans that specifically mention threatened plant species occurring within them
- e. Determine which threatened species are the subjects of national legislation concerning land management
- f. Identify areas and habitats associated with threatened plant species and assess their degree of protection
- g. Establish new protected areas targeting protection of threatened plant species, where required
- h. Train protected areas managers to recognise threatened plant species and develop management actions to conserve them
- i. Enact legislation governing land use and management in areas where threatened species occur – these can be directed either at the species or at associated habitat types.
- j. Train land owners and managers to recognise threatened plant species
- k. Provide incentives for land owners to take action to conserve threatened species

*Observations of Expert Group*

***The stakeholder consultation process is still ongoing for this target. It was noted that inventorying often stimulates the designation of new protected areas, and this possibility should be recognised. The question as to whether on-farm conservation should be included in this Target was raised. The close link with Target 8 with respect to species recovery programmes was noted. The target is closely linked with targets 4 and 5, and other targets, since progress in these targets will directly contribute to target 7.***

**Target 8**

**“60% of threatened plant species in accessible ex situ collections, preferably in the country of origin, and 10% of them included in recovery and restoration programmes”**

*Organizations facilitating the stakeholder consultation:*

Botanic Gardens Conservation International and IPGRI

*Consultation process*

A stakeholder consultation meeting hosted by the National Botanic Garden, Belgium was held from 19-20 July, 2003, organised and sponsored by Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI), the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI) and the HSBC “Investing in Nature” initiative. Further contributions were received and incorporated during the drafting of the report.

*Key points from report*

The report includes guidelines on the means by which priority categories of plants to be included in ex situ conservation programmes can be identified. The role of ex situ conservation in support of integrated conservation and sustainable use programmes and the desirability of adopting an ecosystem approach with respect to restoration programmes are highlighted. Data requirements for accessions held in ex situ collections are identified and sources of baseline data identified.

*Key tools and resources identified in report*

- Red Lists
- BGCI plant database
- WIEWS database
- System-wide Information Network on Genetic Resources (SINGER)
- IPGRI databases

*Partners/related initiatives*

- BGCI
- IPGRI
- International Agenda for Botanic Gardens in Conservation
- Millennium Seed Bank project
- ENSCONET – European network of seedbanks
- REDBAG - Spanish network of seedbanks of wild plants and autochthonous phytoresources.

*Proposed sub-targets and milestones*

- a. Sub-target 1. Development of time-bound sub-targets, preferably on an annual basis, at appropriate national, regional and international levels indicating [actual] numbers of species, and where possible their names and regions of origin to be included in ex situ conservation collections and in recovery and restoration programmes based on available and developing baseline information.
- b. Sub-target 2. 90% of critically endangered species included in ex situ conservation collections by 2010.

### *Milestones*

Twelve milestones are proposed at international level. The relevance of these milestones to achievement of other targets in the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation is also indicated under each milestone.

1. Milestone 1. Compile and make accessible a consolidated list of networks involved in ex situ conservation and related activities worldwide by 2004. (Target 16)
2. Milestone 2. All institutions holding ex situ collections of plant resources are identified and are included in a worldwide process to monitor the achievement of Target 8 by 2004.
3. Milestone 3. Mechanism and process established to facilitate the addition of an annual number of threatened plants to be included in ex situ conservation collections, preferably in their country of origin, by [2004].
4. Milestone 4. Globally accessible databases of expertise, knowledge and resources compiled and available to support the implementation of Target 8 by [2004] (Targets 15 and 16)
5. Milestone 5. Establishment of internationally accessible preliminary database on threatened species included in recovery and restoration programmes by 2004 (Target 9).
6. Milestone 6. Mechanism and process established to facilitate the addition of an annual number of threatened plants to be included in recovery and restoration programmes by 2005 (Target 9).
7. Milestone 7. Accessible consolidated preliminary list of plants held in ex situ collections available by 2005.
8. Milestone 8. Existing and required models and protocols assessed and/or developed and made widely available to support minimum standards for ex situ conservation collections by [2005] (Target 3).
9. Milestone 9. Identification of an indicative list of priorities for urgent plant conservation programmes (e.g. threatened species of wild relatives of crops, medicinals, keystone and/or flagship species, ecotypes, taxa of special scientific interest) by [2005] (Target 9).
10. Milestone 10. Studies completed indicating genetic consequences of seed banking in indicative plant groups by 2005 (Target 3).
11. Milestone 11. Tools established for development of a genetic provenance atlas for model and/or priority plant taxa as a guide to collection strategies by [2006] (Targets 3 and 15).
12. Milestone 12. Identification of a minimum of 20,000 threatened species held in accessible botanic garden ex situ conservation collections by 2006 (Target 12).

### *Observations of Expert Group*

*As the number of threatened species will not be fixed in time, but will change as more plant species are assessed, the group noted the need to work on the basis of a “sliding baseline” of known threatened plant species. The need to look at how genetically representative existing ex situ collections are was also noted. A number of useful tools and instruments have been identified and the importance of ensuring compatibility between data sources was highlighted.*

### **Target 9**

**“70 per cent of the genetic diversity of crops and other major socio-economically valuable plant species conserved, and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained”**

#### *Organization facilitating the stakeholder consultation:*

FAO in collaboration with IPGRI

#### *Consultation process*

A draft discussion paper has been prepared and has been discussed internally within FAO and IPGRI. The document was circulated to the wider stakeholder community in mid September and comments are presently being received and analysed. The key contact people at the national level for this target are the national focal points for the Global Plan of Action for PGRFA.

#### *Key points from report*

Conservation of the genetic diversity of crops and other socio-economically valuable plant species will be difficult to promote without promoting sustainable utilization. Indeed much of the genetic diversity will be maintained within production systems. The crucial linkage between conservation and utilization should therefore be recognized and linkages with other targets of the GSPC that are focused on the utilization of plant resource taken into account. Also this target is intimately related to the ongoing work of FAO Global Plan of Action on the Conservation and Sustainable Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources and the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. Key issues to be addressed include the selection of species – both crop and tree species, how to ensure the conservation of sufficient intra-specific diversity, conservation methods and approaches, the maintenance of associated indigenous and local knowledge.

*Key tools and resources identified in report*

- Report on State of the World's PGRFA
- *Ex situ* collections of Consultative Group on International Agricultural research (CGIAR)
- WIEWS
- FAO World-Wide Information System on Forest Genetic Resources (REFORGEN)
- Country Reports on State of Forest Tree Genetic Diversity

*Partners/related initiatives*

- International PGR networks
- Global Plan of Action for PGRFA
- International treaty on PGRFA
- Intergovernmental Panel on Forests
- Intergovernmental Forum on Forests
- Programme of work on Agricultural biodiversity of the CBD
- Expanded programme of work on Forest biological diversity of the CBD
- FAO Panel of Experts on Forest Gene Resources
- IPGRI-FAO GEF Crop Wild relatives project

*Proposed sub-targets and milestones*

In developing sub-targets and milestones it is appropriate to reflect existing international plans and objectives that are relevant to conservation of genetic diversity. These include, for example, the specific objectives in the GPA on *ex situ* and *in situ* conservation. Possible sub-targets could include components on:

- a. crop plants
- b. socio-economically valuable non crop species
- c. indigenous and local knowledge

*Milestones:*

Milestones related to Food and Agriculture should take into account the timetable established for the Second Report of the State of the World on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture to be prepared for the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture by 2006.

Some examples of milestones could include:

- 1.
2. Crop wild relatives and other wild socio economically important plant groups
3. Identification of what are the urgent tasks for the conservation of wild relatives and other wild socio economically important plant groups at risk.
- 4.
5. Outputs of the Global Taxonomic Initiative (under the CBD) working on better estimates of the world's number of forest tree species

6. Definition and identification of important forest tree species according to their distribution (FRA) and their genetic use (REFORGEN and Gene Panel).
7. Definition and identification of genecological zonation at forest tree population level ;
8. Eco-regional classification taking into account the country-based genecological classifications;
9. Preliminary statistics on the level of in situ and ex situ conservation of important forest trees from REFORGEN data base;
10. Meetings of Panel of Experts on Forest Gene Resources and other expert groups;
11. First Report on Sate of the World's Forest Tree Genetic Resources (not before 2007)
12. IUCN and WCMC Red Lists of Forest Trees

*Observations of Expert Group*

***It was noted that this Target, while achievable for major crop species may be difficult to achieve for some forest species. The importance of including local knowledge in conservation assessments was highlighted. This target is intimately related to the mandate of FAO and the CGRFA. It was noted that the target will be implemented largely through the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, and, accordingly, the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture should be invited to consider the Strategy, in particular, target 9.***

**Target 10**

**“Management plans in place for at least 100 major alien species that threaten plants, plant communities and associated habitats and ecosystems”**

*Organization facilitating the stakeholder consultation:*

Global Invasive Species Programme

*Consultation process*

The report on this consultation is still under preparation. However, the target is intimately related to the mandate of GISP and this organization was involved in the setting of the Targets. Good linkages have been established and relevant actions are on-going.

*Observations of Expert Group*

***National focal points, and GISP, should be invited to identify major invasives at national and global levels, respectively.***

**Target 11**

**“No species of wild flora endangered by international trade”**

*Facilitating organization*

Convention on Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna

*Consultation process*

A document was prepared by a Plants Committee working group on ways for the Plants Committee to assist in the implementation of the CBD Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (document PC13 Doc. 22). The working group decided to develop a discussion paper for Plants Committee 14 bringing together information on the contribution of CITES to all the GSPC targets. Flora and Fauna International (FFI) offered to draft this paper based on the Plants Committee work programme, and to circulate it to the PC representatives for comments and additions.

*Key points from report*

As well as being the facilitating agency for the consultation process on target 11, the work of CITES also contributes to targets 1, 2, 3, 7, 8(?), 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16. In relation to non-CITES species threatened

by trade, it was recognised that there are other mechanisms than CITES for preventing the threat to species from excessive levels of trade. However it was felt that in order to meet Target 11, there will need to be continuing commitment by CITES to examine the range of plant species in trade which are threatened, even if they are not currently CITES-listed species.

*Key tools and resources identified in report*

- CITES lists
- Red lists
- Best practice examples

*Partners/related initiatives*

- IUCN Wildlife Trade programme
- Flora and Fauna International (FFI)
- UNEP-WCMC

*Proposed sub-targets and milestones*

Discussion paper for Plants Committee 14 – Feb. 2004

*Observations of Expert Group*

***This target is intimately related to the mandate of CITES. Good linkages have been established and relevant actions are on-going.***

**Target 12**

**“30 per cent of plant based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed”**

*Organization facilitating the stakeholder consultation:*

FAO in collaboration with IPGRI

*Consultation process*

A background paper to be used for the stakeholder consultation has been developed and circulated internally within FAO and IPGRI. The wider consultation process for this target will be initiated in October 2003.

*Key points from report*

The background paper aims to facilitate the measurement of progress towards Target 12. Discussions pertain to: clarifying the scope of the target; establishing baselines; and establishing sub-targets, milestones and indicators of progress towards the target over time. Key points to be discussed relate to the scope of the target, and specifically to the identification of what plant-based products should be included and what can be defined as sources that are sustainably managed. The issue of defining criteria for sustainable management is also raised.

*Key tools and resources identified in report*

World of organic Agriculture 2003

*Partners/related initiatives*

- GPA for PGRFA
- IFOAM
- Agric biodiversity programme of CBD
- FAO Forest Products Trade programme
- FAO Non-Wood Forest product programme
- Forest Resources Assessment (FRA)
- Criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management

- Forestry certification schemes
- Collaborative partnership on forests
- Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire
- National Forest programme facility
- ITTO

*Proposed sub-targets and milestones*

Sub-targets can be identified in relation to particular products that fall in the scope of this target, for example:

1. Sub-target 1: Agricultural products
2. Sub-target 2: Forest products
3. Sub-target 2.1: Wood products
4. Sub-target 2.2: Fuel wood products
5. Sub-target 2.3: Non wood forest products

Sub-targets can also be related to certification or standards, e.g. for agricultural products the sub-targets can be defined according to organic food production and fair trade standards. Voluntary social and environmental standards and certification programmes can also be included as a sub-target.

*Observations of Expert Group*

*The stakeholder consultation process is still ongoing for this target. A stakeholder meeting on this topic would be desirable, provided that funds are available. The reporting burden on Parties was considered an important point and it was recommended that data/information already available should be used whenever possible. The question as to how to achieve a balance between agriculture and forestry was raised. It has been suggested that there should be two areas of focus: (i) promoting actions and (ii) monitoring. There is a need to also look at areas such as horticultural trade and medicinal plant trade as well as agriculture and forestry.*

**Target 13**

**“The decline of plant resources and associated local and indigenous knowledge innovations and practices that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, halted.”**

*Organisations facilitating the stakeholder consultation* FAO in collaboration with IPGRI, and People and Plants International <sup>5</sup>

*Consultation process*

A document has been prepared as the background paper to be used for a stakeholder consultation facilitated by the FAO, in collaboration with the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI), and People and Plants International<sup>6</sup>. The paper aims to facilitate the measurement of progress towards Target 13. Discussions pertain to: clarifying the scope of the Target; establishing baselines; and establishing sub-targets, milestones and indicators of progress towards the Target over time. Also addressed are the desirability of a flexible co-ordination mechanism and the relationship to crosscutting Targets (3, 14, 15 and 16). Recommendations to the relevant stakeholders will be elaborated through further consultations.

*Key points from report*

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<sup>5</sup> People and Plants International (PPI) is a new NGO which will continue the capacity building and networking function of the WWF/UNESCO “People and Plants Initiative”

<sup>6</sup>People and Plants International" (PPI) is a new NGO which will continue the capacity building and networking function of the WWF/UNESCO "People and Plants Initiative".

Target 13 focuses explicitly on the status of plants used by, and important to, local people and is most relevant to subsistence economies in developing countries. This Target recognizes the relationship between biodiversity conservation, diverse cultures and local practices for sustainable use. The Target recognizes that locally managed plant resources are essential biological assets for improving the livelihoods of the rural poor. Target 13 therefore deals with two of the main challenges facing plant conservation: firstly, overexploitation of plant resources and secondly, the loss and erosion of local systems of knowledge and management of plant resources due to socio-economic changes. Three additional large challenges are (1) habitat loss and fragmentation; (2) global climate change (3) species introductions and invasions. Other key issues to be addressed include the selection of plant resources and livelihoods/communities and defining associated indigenous knowledge and sustainable livelihoods. Also the issues of the relationship between plant resources and associated indigenous knowledge, innovations and practices, and livelihoods and the integration of scale and sectors were raised.

*Key tools and resources identified in report*

- Report on State of the World's PGRFA
- Databases on PGR and forestry
- FAO studies on gender and genetic resources

*Partners/related initiatives*

- FAO
- IPGRI
- PPI
- Global Plan of Action for PGRFA
- International Treaty on PGRFA
- CBD Article 8(j)
- Latin American Ethnobotany Group
- Indigenous people's organizations
- UNDP/FAO Sustainable livelihoods programme
- UNESCO World heritage convention

*Proposed sub-targets and milestones*

Sub-targets should focus on existing data, and the process of updating/analysing this data. Sub-targets in relation to particular plant resources may be identified for example:

1. Sub-target 1: Plant resources for food and agriculture
2. Sub-target 2: Forest plant resources
3. Sub target 3: Pasture plant resources

Alternatively sub-targets can also be related to the rural communities that mostly depend on these resources, e.g. small scale farmers, forest hunters and gatherers and migrating pastoralists. This would be more consistent with the sustainable livelihoods framework which focuses on people, e.g. the rural communities as opposed to organising investigation or development according to a specific technology or resource.

*Milestones.*

Some examples of possible milestones include:

- Locally defined criteria of the interlinkages between plant resources and livelihoods on the local community level are developed, based on the case studies.
- Generic criteria and indicators are identified and selected from the locally defined criteria
- Ethno-botanical studies on the local community level using the SLA framework and relevant to the sub-target are used to define key species, and plant use practices that favour biodiversity and

livelihood security. These can be collated and disseminated in the form of best practices and benchmark studies.

- Selection of 15 case studies of the interrelationships between plant resources and livelihoods in distinct environments and at distinct social scales to understand how local management practices can be scaled up into policy and contribute to national and global development and biodiversity conservation goals.

*Observations of Expert Group*

***The stakeholder consultation process is still ongoing for this target. Some discussion was held on how to encourage greater participation in the stakeholder consultation on this Target. The particular importance of this Target was noted, in that it links biodiversity to sustainable develop***

*Annex V***NATIONAL LEVEL EXPERIENCES***Australia*

Some plant conservation activities are coordinated in Australia through the Australian Network for Plant Conservation. An interim national liaison person for the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation has been identified and stakeholder consultations about the strategy held. In support of the Strategy, management plans are in place for invasive species and a compendium of conservation resources has been published. In addition, guidelines for *ex situ* conservation have been developed and published. Australia is also well advanced in bioinventorying and assessment of the conservation status of plants as well as identification of areas important for plant conservation.

*Dominican Republic*

A national biodiversity strategy is not yet completed and the opportunity exists for the targets of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation to be incorporated into this. The National Botanic Garden, which is part of the national protected area system is the authority on the flora of Dominican Republic and with more than 100,000 specimens at the National Herbarium is the reference for Hispaniola as a whole. The Botanic Garden will bring the GSPC to the attention of Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources. Biodiversity legislation is presently being discussed in parliament and a list of plants to be protected by law has been proposed by the botanic garden. The Dominican Republic leads several regional programmes, e.g. Programa de Investigacion Cientifica Aplicada de Plantas Medicinales (TRAMIL) and GELA (Grupo Etnobotanico Latinoamericano). The National Botanic Garden is hosting the next Latin American Botanical Congress in 2006, which is organized every four years with the Latin American Botanical Association in different countries.

*Ireland*

As president of the EU, Ireland will be representing Europe at the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties in 2004, and has recently developed a team of 22 people to address issues related to the Convention. A national biodiversity plan has been published (2002) and there is some overlap between this and the GSPC. Actions regarding protected areas are largely determined by EU directives. No specific discussion on the GSPC has taken place in Ireland yet, but a national platform for biodiversity research has been established as a clearing house for identifying gaps in research. The national biodiversity platform will provide a forum for the discussion of the Strategy in the near future.

*Malaysia*

National biodiversity plans have been developed and in relation to plants, the targets set within this are in line with the GSPC targets. Various agencies are involved in biodiversity-related activities, including the Ministry of Environment, Forestry Department, Department of Agriculture, MARDI, FRIM, Botanic Gardens etc. Implementation of the GSPC is led by the Forest Research Institute of Malaysia (FRIM), but wider stakeholder consultations have not yet taken place. If additional targets are to be set in line with the GSPC, additional resources (funds, manpower and facilities) may be needed.

*Mauritius*

The flora of the Mascarene Islands is available, but some families are incomplete. A national threatened plants committee is in place and species assessments are on-going. It is estimated that 95% of native plant species are already in protected areas, and *ex situ* conservation is on-going. Vegetation surveys have been carried out and important areas for plant diversity are known. A national biodiversity action plan is under development and the targets of the Strategy could be introduced into this. No specific discussion has yet taken place on the Strategy, but this will be discussed in the framework of the national threatened plants committee.

*Poland*

Poland has developed a strategy for the sustainable use of biodiversity, and in the area of plants, this is relevant to the GSPC. A Red Data Book is available and is updated every 4 years. This contains a list of threatened plants and information on how to conserve these plants. The flora of Poland is well known and threatened plants are protected by law. Such protection includes the protection of the habitat of the plant. *Ex situ* conservation via seed banks is well developed. No specific targets have been developed for plant conservation and sustainable use, but some targets within the biodiversity strategy are relevant to the GSPC. The Strategy has not yet been discussed with stakeholders in Poland and the general level of awareness of biodiversity issues is considered low.

*Russia*

A national biodiversity strategy has been developed, and a list of plants of Russia and neighbouring countries was completed in 1995. Red data books exist and provide information on conservation plans for threatened species. A new edition is in preparation. Threatened species are protected by law. A survey of protected areas is due to be published, providing information on more than 100 nature reserves, including the distribution of species in these reserves. Biodiversity-related information is held by various ministries and there is a need for this to be compiled and analysed in order for gaps to be identified. The GSPC has not yet been discussed with stakeholders in Russia.

*Spain*

The experiences of Spain in responding to the GSPC targets are detailed in a paper published in 2002 in the journal *Ecologia* 16: 451-467. The paper is entitled “Aproximacion a la conservacion de le Flora en Espania; un compromiso con la estrategia mundial”. In response to the GSPC, Spain has established the Spanish Network of Seedbanks of Wild Plants and Autochthonous Phytoresources (REDBAG). This network consists of 8 full members, 2 members whose facilities are presently being developed and 2 potential members. A total of 35,000 accessions of 10,000 taxa are presently conserved by the members of the network. REDBAG specifically address targets 8, 9 and 16 of the GSPC.

*Annex VI***FLEXIBLE COORDINATION MECHANISM**

The purpose of the flexible coordination mechanism for the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation Strategy is to facilitate and promote implementation and monitoring of the Strategy at all levels.

It comprises the following elements:

- Meetings of a Liaison Group
- National GSPC contact/focal points
- A global partnership for plant conservation comprising relevant international and national organizations
- The Secretariat, in particular the GSPC Programme Officer supported by BGCI

**Liaison Group**

Role: To advise the Executive Secretary on the development and implementation of the Strategy, and, through the Executive Secretary, to provide advice to the Convention bodies and the global partnership for plant conservation, and to assist implementation by national focal points.

Composition: Experts selected by the Executive Secretary from among those nominated by Parties and relevant international organizations (including those mentioned in decision VI/9) according to established procedures

Convened: by the Executive Secretary when needed.

**National GSPC contact points or focal points**

Roles: (1) To promote and facilitate implementation and monitoring of the Strategy at national level, including the identification of national targets and their integration in National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans and sectoral and cross-sectoral plans programmes and activities; (2) to promote the participation of national stakeholders in the implementation and monitoring of the Strategy at national level; (3) to facilitate communication between national stakeholders and the Secretariat and GSPC Partnership.

The National GSPC Contact Points or Focal Points would be nominated by the CBD National Focal Points

**A Global Partnership for Plant Conservation**

Roles: to promote and facilitate implementation and monitoring of the Strategy at international levels and, in collaboration with national GSPC focal points at national levels.

Composition: relevant international and national organizations (including those mentioned in decision VI/9), building upon “the Gran Canaria Group” for which BGCI provides a secretariat. At the invitation of the Executive Secretary, particular organizations may be invited to promote and facilitate stakeholder consultations on, and/or monitoring of specific targets, and/or implementation of specific activities that contribute to the Strategy.

**The Secretariat, in particular the GSPC Programme Officer, supported by BGCI**

Roles: (1) to support meetings of Liaison Groups; (2) to support the agreed activities of the global partnership for plant conservation; (3) to facilitate communication among participating organizations and national contacts/focal points, including through a Clearing House Mechanism thematic focal point for the Strategy.

**Table 1: Integration of the targets of the Strategy into the programmes of work of the Convention**

Target of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation	Most relevant programmes of work into which the target should be integrated
1. A widely accessible working list of known plant species, as a step towards a complete world flora.	Global Taxonomy Initiative
2. A preliminary assessment of the conservation status of all known plant species, at national, regional and international levels.	All thematic programmes.
3. Development of models with protocols for plant conservation and sustainable use, based on research and practical experience.	All thematic programmes. Clearing House Mechanism
4. At least 10 per cent of each of the world's ecological regions effectively conserved.	Protected Areas All thematic programmes
5. Protection of 50 per cent of the most important areas for plant diversity assured.	Protected Areas All thematic programmes.
6. At least 30 per cent of production lands managed consistent with the conservation of plant diversity.	Relevant to all thematic programmes, particularly agricultural biodiversity and forest biodiversity.
7. 60 per cent of the world's threatened plant species conserved <i>in situ</i> .	All thematic programmes.
8. 60 per cent of threatened plant species in accessible <i>ex situ</i> collections, preferably in the country of origin, and 10 per cent of them included in recovery and restoration programmes.	All thematic programmes.
9. 70 per cent of the genetic diversity of crops and other major socio-economically valuable plant species conserved, and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained.	Relevant to all thematic programmes, particularly agricultural biodiversity and forest biodiversity. Article 8(j) and related provisions
10. Management plans in place for at least 100 major alien species that threaten plants, plant communities and associated habitats and ecosystems.	Invasive Alien Species All thematic programmes.
11. No species of wild flora endangered by international trade.	Sustainable Use
12. 30 per cent of plant-based products derived from sources that are sustainably managed.	Sustainable Use All thematic programmes, especially agricultural biodiversity and forest biodiversity.
13. The decline of plant resources, and associated indigenous and local knowledge, innovations and practices that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, halted.	All thematic programmes, especially agricultural biodiversity, forest biodiversity, and biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands. Article 8(j) and related provisions Sustainable Use
14. The importance of plant diversity and the need for its conservation incorporated into communication, educational and public-awareness programmes.	Communication, Education and Public Awareness

<b>Target of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation</b>	<b>Most relevant programmes of work into which the target should be integrated</b>
15. The number of trained people working with appropriate facilities in plant conservation increased, according to national needs, to achieve the targets of this Strategy.	All thematic programmes.
16. Networks for plant conservation activities established or strengthened at national, regional and international levels.	All thematic programmes.

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