

**CONVENTION ON
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DIVERSITY**

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

Seventh meeting
Montreal, 12-16 November 2001

**DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY
ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE AT ITS SEVENTH
MEETING**

Note by the Executive Secretary

1. The present note is a compilation of the various draft recommendations that have been suggested by the Executive Secretary in the working documents prepared for the seventh meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA). These elements are presented in line with the provisional agenda for the meeting (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/1), with an indication of the symbol of the working documents from which they have been drawn.
2. In general, the text of the draft recommendations has been drawn directly from the suggestions in the corresponding document, with minor editorial corrections as necessary. In some cases, however, particularly where it is suggested that SBSTTA may wish develop text on the basis of elements contained in the working documents, the suggested recommendation has been reworded to reflect the possible outcome of that work. This is in no way intended to prejudge the outcome of the discussions, but simply to indicate the final form that the recommendation by SBSTTA might take.

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Item 3.1: Ad hoc technical expert groups (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/2)

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice

1. *Takes note* of the progress report of the Executive Secretary on the status and work of the ad hoc technical expert groups.
2. *Expresses support* for efforts by the Executive Secretary to seek the necessary additional voluntary contributions to allow the works of the groups to be completed.

Item 3.2 Assessment processes - progress report on ongoing assessment processes (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/3)

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice

1. *Agrees* that the procedure outlined in annex I to the present recommendation, provides a sound basis for undertaking the approved assessments as steps towards furthering understanding of biodiversity, its value and its rates of loss, especially at ecosystem levels; biodiversity thresholds in relation to ecosystem functioning; and the effectiveness of measures to address biodiversity loss; and recommend that the Executive Secretary continue to develop this procedure, in particular to elaborate further the identification or development of criteria and indicators for the topics listed in paragraph (a) above;
2. *Endorses* the project briefs contained in annex II to the present recommendation;
3. *Invites* those participating in these assessments to keep the Subsidiary Body informed of their work, and further invite them to report to the Subsidiary Body at its eighth meeting;
4. *Welcomes* in particular the contribution that the assessments listed in section III of the progress report on ongoing assessment processes (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/3) have made to the work of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the Convention;
5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting on the progress of pilot assessments, and in consultation with relevant organizations to identify any important assessment gaps in the work under the Convention and advise the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at its eighth meeting on ways and means to address such gaps.

Annex I

THE ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE

(To be prepared by SBSTTA on the basis of the proposals in annex I to document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/3)

Annex II

PROJECT BRIEFS OF PILOT ASSESSMENTS

(To be prepared by SBSTTA on the basis of the project briefs in annex II to document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/3)

Item 3.3: *Biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands: progress report on the implementation of the programme of work (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/4)*

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Matters *takes note* of the progress report of the Executive Secretary on the implementation of the programme of work on the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands [and *provides* the following guidance for the forthcoming review of the programme of work: [SBSTTA guidance will be given here]]

Item 3.4: *Sustainable use: progress on development of practical principles, operational guidance and associated instruments (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/5)*

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice

1. *Takes note* of the report on sustainable use: progress on development of practical principles, operational guidance and associated instruments; and with regards to the guidelines on sustainable tourism,

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To transmit the draft guidelines on sustainable tourism development in vulnerable areas, as contained in annex I to the note by the Executive Secretary on sustainable use (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/5), to the Commission on Sustainable Development at its tenth session, which will take place in New York from 28 January to 8 February 2002;

(b) To submit the guidelines to the preparatory process for the World Summit on Ecotourism to be held in Quebec City, in May 2002;

3. *Recommends* that the Conference of the Parties:

(a) Endorses the guidelines for activities related to sustainable tourism development and biological diversity in vulnerable terrestrial, marine and mountain ecosystems, as contained in annex I to the present recommendation;

(b) Requests the Executive Secretary to make the guidelines available in the form of a booklet in all United Nations languages, and to submit them to the preparatory process for the World Summit on Ecotourism to be held in Quebec City in May 2002; and

(c) Requests Parties to include reporting on sustainable tourism in national reports under the Convention on Biological Diversity; and to submit to the Executive Secretary, for further dissemination through the clearing-house mechanism, reports and cases-studies on the findings of projects integrating the guidelines, and representative locations for which could be based on the following criteria:

(i) *Levels of protection:*

a. Internationally recognized networks of protected areas such as the World Network of Biosphere Reserves, World Heritage sites and Ramsar sites, and national and local systems of protected areas;

b. Different categories of protected areas, according to IUCN categories or other systems;

c. Locations outside protected areas;

(ii) *Levels of tourism development and impact:*

a. Relatively undisturbed natural areas in which local communities (including indigenous and local communities when appropriate) play a significant role, and with low levels of tourism;

- b. Established and flourishing tourist destinations;
- c. Over-developed destinations where mass tourism has already produced severe levels of damage, requiring renovation and environmental restoration;
- (iii) *Types of ecosystem:* A spectrum of relevant terrestrial, including island, coastal and marine, and inland water ecosystems;
- (d) Invites international organizations to provide technical and financial assistance in the implementation of the guidelines and to pay due regard to the guidelines when preparing, approving and funding tourism development projects having potential implications on biological diversity;
- (e) Invites initiatives with regard to education and public awareness in the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity, such as the Global Initiative on Biological Diversity Education and Public Awareness, should include references to the guidelines and to sustainable tourism;
- (f) Invites other relevant organizations, such as the World Tourism Organization (WTO/OMT), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Bank, the World Trade Organization, and regional development banks to take these guidelines into account in undertaking their activities;
- (g) Requests the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with relevant organizations and bodies to develop mechanisms for monitoring and assessing compliance with these guidelines to ensure that tourism is sustainable and respects the requirements of conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and its components;
- (h) Request SBSTTA to review and assess periodically the guidelines, based on experienced gained through implementation of these guidelines, and from monitoring, so as to ensure that they are effective, adequate and conducive to the goals.
- (i) Invites the private sector, both businesses and business associations, to support implementation of these guidelines *inter alia* by making the guidelines part of their sustainable tourism policies; compiling and publishing regular reports on tourism practices and biodiversity; cooperating actively with Governments to support the development of sustainable practices in tourism planning, infrastructure and biodiversity management; and ensuring that practices in conformity with the guidelines are adopted.

Item 4: Forest biological diversity (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/6/6, UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/6/7 and UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/6/8)

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice

1. Welcomes the report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Forest Biological Diversity (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/6), including its assessment of the status and trends of forest biological diversity and major gaps in the information (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/INF/3), and the matrices used in defining options and priority actions for conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/INF/4);
2. Approves the summary of the status and trends of forest biological diversity and major gaps in the information, contained in section II of the report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group;
3. Proposes an expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity as annexed to the present recommendation;
4. Requests the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Climate Change and Biodiversity to consider the proposed activities and options to address the impact of climate change on forest biodiversity contained in the note by the Executive Secretary on consideration of specific threats to forest biological diversity (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/7);
5. Recommends that the Conference of the Parties, at its sixth meeting:

- (a) Adopts the expanded programme of work as annexed to the present recommendation;
- (b) Urges Parties and other Governments to incorporate the objectives and relevant elements of the programme of work into their national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- (c) Invites members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), ^{1/} the CPF network and other relevant organizations and stakeholders to contribute to the implementation of the programme of work;
- (d) Invites Parties to formulate and adopt national targets for the conservation and sustainable use of forest biodiversity, including designation of a permanent “national forest estate”, using the ecosystem approach;
- (e) Invites Parties and other Governments, and relevant organizations, to report on implementation of this decision and the programme of work through, *inter alia*, their national reports submitted under the Convention;
- (f) Decides to consider, at its seventh meeting, the options for sustainable financial support to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity, that recognize the global goods and services provided by biological diversity in forest ecosystems, taking into account the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;

With regard to non-timber forest resources:

- (g) Establishes a bushmeat task force to develop a strategic plan of action to reduce unsustainable hunting of endangered species for bushmeat, taking into account the need to find alternative sources of protein and income for the rural populations concerned, and requests the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the range States, other Parties and relevant organizations and stakeholder groups to participate in this task force;
- (h) Requests the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with others members of the Collaborative Partnership of Forests and its network, to explore possibilities to enhance the integration of non-timber forest resources in the forest inventory and management, and to report on progress to the Subsidiary Body prior to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

With regards to human-induced forest fires:

- (i) *Invites* all the members of the Collaborative Partnership of Forests and its network to contribute to this work, including by reporting their relevant activities to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and for the discussion through the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity;
- (j) Requests the Executive Secretary to enhance collaboration with the members of the Collaborative Partnership of Forests, and other organizations mentioned in the recommendations, and to report on achievements to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice when it considers forest issues or sustainable use;
- (k) Urges Parties to the Convention and other Governments to consider options to address the negative impacts of forest fires in section III F of the note by the Executive Secretary on consideration

^{1/} Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity; Center for International Forestry Research; Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat/United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat; Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; Global Environment Facility Secretariat; International Tropical Timber Organization; Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, United Nations Development Programme; United Nations Environment Programme, Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Secretariat and the World Bank.

of specific threats to forest biological diversity (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/7) and the options proposed in section IV C of the same document, on how to mitigate the impacts of unsustainable harvesting of non-timber forest resources of forest biodiversity for inclusion in their programmes and plans for the conservation and sustainable use of forest biological diversity, and report on the results of such consideration to the Conference of the Parties at its future meetings when it considers forest-related issues;

(l) *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Tropical Timber Organization and the Global Fire Monitoring Center, and other relevant organizations to include forest biodiversity in their assessments of fire impacts; explore possibilities for Joint Work Programme with the Convention on Biological Diversity, including *inter alia*, fire impact assessments, development of guidelines in fire management, and community based approaches in fire prevention and management; and report on progress to the Subsidiary Body prior to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

(m) *Encourage* the development of community-based approaches in the implementation of the programme of work, *inter alia*, for issues related to forest fires and non-timber forest resources;

With regard to the linkages between forest biodiversity and climate change:

(n) *Invites* the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP) in the context of its Global Change and Terrestrial Ecosystems global transect programme, and the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment to enhance collaboration in the research and monitoring activities on forest biological diversity and climate change, and explore possibilities of establishing an international network to monitor and assess the impact of climate change on forest biological diversity.

Annex

EXPANDED PROGRAMME OF WORK ON FOREST BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

(To be prepared by SBSTTA on the basis of the draft revised programme of work in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/8)

Item 5.1: Agricultural biological diversity (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/9 and Add.1)

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice *recommends* that the Conference of the Parties, at its sixth meeting:

(a) Notes the progress made in the implementation of the programme of work and the need for emphasis and further action on:

- (i) The promotion of methods of sustainable agriculture that employ management practices, technologies and policies that promote the positive and mitigate the negative impacts of agriculture on biodiversity, with particular focus on the needs of farmers and indigenous and local communities;
- (ii) Capacity-building; and
- (iii) Mainstreaming;

(b) Adopts proposals for the further implementation of the programme of work and elements on agricultural biodiversity for incorporation into the format for the third national reports, and, also, consider the need for a thematic report prior to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

(c) Adopts the proposal for a plan of action for the International Pollinators Initiative annexed to the present recommendation and urges Parties and other Governments, and relevant organizations to contribute to its implementation.

Annex

THE INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR THE CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF POLLINATORS: A PROPOSAL FOR A PLAN OF ACTION

(To be prepared by SBSTTA on the basis of the proposal in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/9/Add.1)

Item 5.2: Plant conservation strategy (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/10)

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific Technical and Technological Advice *recommends* that the Conference of the Parties:

(a) Adopts the draft Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, including the targets for 2010, annexed to the present recommendation;

(b) Invites Parties, Governments and relevant organizations to adopt these targets, and, as appropriate, to incorporate them into relevant plans, programmes and initiatives, including national biodiversity strategies and action plans, in order to promote a common effort towards halting the loss of plant diversity;

(c) Reviews, at its eighth and tenth meetings (tentatively in 2006 and 2010 respectively), the progress made in reaching the targets, and to provide additional guidance in light of those reviews;

(d) Decides to consider the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation as a pilot approach for the use of outcome targets under the Convention within the context of the Strategic Plan and, at its eighth meeting, to consider also the wider application of this approach to other areas under the Convention;

(e) Requests the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice:

(i) In its periodic review of the thematic and cross-cutting programmes of work under the Convention to:

a. Identify further opportunities for the implementation of thematic and cross-cutting programmes of work to contribute to the achievement of the targets; and

b. Consider, in light of the targets, the need for the further elaboration of the programmes of work;

(ii) To develop ways and means of monitoring and assessing progress in the implementation of the global strategy for plant conservation and to report to the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting;

(f) Welcomes the contribution of the “Gran Canaria Group” in developing this strategy, and invite the organizations involved, and other relevant organizations, in collaboration with the Executive Secretary, to contribute to the further development, implementation and monitoring of the strategy.

Annex

GLOBAL PLANT CONSERVATION STRATEGY

(To be prepared by SBSTTA on the basis of the proposals in section IV of document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/10)

Item 5.3: *Incentive measures: Proposals for the design and implementation of incentive measures (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/11 and Add.1)*

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Workshop on Incentive Measures for the Conservation and Sustainable, held in Montreal from 10 to 12 October 2001 (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/11/Add.1); and the;
2. *Decides* to transmit to the Conference of the Parties, for consideration and endorsement at its sixth meeting, the proposals for the design and implementation of incentive measures and the recommendations for further cooperation on incentive measures, contained, respectively in annexes I and II to the present recommendation.

Annex I

PROPOSALS FOR THE DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF INCENTIVE MEASURES

[To be prepared by SBSTTA on the basis of the proposals in annex I to the report of the Workshop on Incentive Measures (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/11/Add.1)]

Annex II

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER COOPERATION ON INCENTIVE MEASURES

[To be prepared by SBSTTA on the basis of the suggested recommendation in annex II to the report of the Workshop on Incentive Measures (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/11/Add.1)]

Item 5.4: *Indicators and environmental impact assessment (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/12 and UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/13)*

A. *Designing national level monitoring programmes and indicators*

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice

1. *Takes note of* the progress report of the Executive Secretary on ongoing work on indicators (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/12);
2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to further develop the principles and the set of standard questions for designing national-level indicators, and for consideration at a meeting prior to the seventh meeting of the Conference of Parties, taking into account the following guidance: [*SBSTTA is expected to give guidance for the further development of the principles and questions*];
3. *Notes* the list of available and potential indicators used by Parties, contained in annex III to the progress report on ongoing work on indicators, and *refers* them to the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting with a recommendation that they be referred to Parties for their information.

B. Impact assessment: Further development of guidelines for incorporating biodiversity-related issues into environmental impact assessment legislation and/or processes and in strategic environmental assessment

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice

Recommends that the Conference of the Parties:

(a) Adopts the draft guidelines for incorporating biodiversity-related issues into environmental impact assessment (EIA) legislation and/or processes and in strategic environmental assessment contained in the annex to the present recommendation as interim guidelines.

(b) Urges Parties, other Governments and organizations to apply them as appropriate in the context of their implementation of paragraph 1 of Article 14 of the Convention and share their experience, *inter alia*, through the clearing house mechanism and national reporting; and

(c) Requests the Executive Secretary to compile and disseminate current experiences in environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment procedures that incorporate biodiversity-related issues, as well as experiences of Parties in applying the guidelines; in light of this information, to further develop and refine the guidelines, particularly to incorporate all stages of the environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment processes; and to provide a report of this work to SBSTTA prior to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Annex

DRAFT INTERIM GUIDELINES FOR INCORPORATING BIODIVERSITY-RELATED ISSUES INTO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT LEGISLATION AND/OR PROCESS AND IN STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

(To be prepared by SBSTTA on the basis of the draft guidelines in section III C of document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/13)
