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OPERATIONS OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

Review of SBSTTA recommendations made to the Conference of the Parties

Note by the Executive Secretary

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In paragraph 23 of decision V/20, the Conference of the Parties decided to make an assessment of the recommendations made to it by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) at its sixth meeting with a view to providing guidance to the Subsidiary Body on ways to improve its inputs. Subsequently, in decision VI/27 B, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to undertake, in consultation with the bureaux of the SBSTTA and Conference of the Parties, a review of the recommendations of the Subsidiary Body. The same decision also requested SBSTTA to prepare proposals for the improvement of the quality of its advice on the basis of the review, and submit thereon to the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting.

Accordingly, the Executive Secretary has prepared the present note to review the recommendations made by SBSTTA to the Conference of the Parties from its first meeting in September 1995 to the latest recommendations made at its seventh meeting in November 2001. Views and comments received from members of the bureaux of the Conference of the Parties and SBSTTA, as of 6 December 2002, have also been incorporated.

The note considers the following items:

- (a) Action taken by the Conference of the Parties on recommendations from SBSTTA;

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(b) The status of implementation of decisions derived from SBSTTA recommendations by the Executive Secretary and, depending on availability of information, by Parties and relevant organizations and;

(c) Proposals for improving SBSTTA inputs to the Conference of the Parties.

SUGGESTED RECOMMENDATIONS

The Subsidiary Body may wish to review the assessment contained in the present note and to provide advice on ways to improve its inputs to the Conference of the Parties, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting.

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. In paragraphs 7 and 8 of decision VI/27 B, the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting requested:

(a) The Executive Secretary to undertake, in consultation with the bureaux of the SBSTTA and the Conference of the Parties, a review of the recommendations of the Subsidiary Body with a view to improving its inputs and to report thereon to the Subsidiary Body at its ninth meeting and to the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting; and

(b) SBSTTA, on the basis of the review mentioned in sub-paragraph (a) above, to prepare proposals for the improvement of the quality of its advice and submit a report thereon to the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting.

2. In its meetings held in September and October 2002, the SBSTTA Bureau decided to consider assessment of SBSTTA recommendations under agenda item 6.3 "Operations of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice" at its eighth meeting, together with the strategic plan of SBSTTA and the multi-year programme of work of the Conference of the Parties up to 2010.

3. Accordingly, the Executive Secretary has prepared the present note, in consultation with the bureaux of the Conference of the Parties and SBSTTA. Section II reviews the proportion of SBSTTA recommendations that have been:

- (a) Adopted in full by the Conference of the Parties;
- (b) Partially adopted or adopted with modifications and
- (c) Not adopted by the Conference of the Parties.

It also attempts to explain the reasons for the non-adoption or only partial adoption of some recommendations.

4. Section III reviews the implementation status of SBSTTA recommendations adopted by the Conference of the Parties that which require actions by the Executive Secretary, the Parties, other Governments, other conventions and organizations. This section also seeks to explain why some recommendations that became decisions of the Conference of the Parties have not been implemented by the relevant actors.

5. Based on Sections II and III, Section IV provides some suggestions for improving SBSTTA inputs to the Conference of the Parties to facilitate their adoption and subsequent implementation.

II. ACTION TAKEN BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES ON RECOMMENDATIONS FROM SBSTTA

A. Methodology used

6. A review was undertaken of all SBSTTA recommendations made to the Conference of the Parties from its first to seventh meetings. The purpose of this review was to identify the proportion of those recommendations that:

(a) Have been adopted by the Conference of the Parties in full (i.e., the wording in the decision of the Conference of the Parties is substantively the same as that in the SBSTTA recommendation);

- (b) Have been adopted partially or with modifications; and
- (c) Have not been adopted by the Conference of the Parties.

7. Each action recommended by SBSTTA to the Conference of the Parties was treated as a distinct recommendation. In addition, recommendations addressed directly to the Executive Secretary, Parties or relevant organizations that have been taken up in decisions by the Conference of the Parties were also considered in this analysis as recommendations addressed to the Conference of the Parties. A 100-page table listing the full text of recommendations that have been consulted for the purpose of this review, is available on the website of the Convention on Biological Diversity at <http://www.biodiv.org/>. It should, however, be noted that although recommendations related to Article 8(j) and access and benefit-sharing are included in the total number of recommendations, they were not subjected to any further analysis as the two work programmes concerned are currently being addressed in separate subsidiary bodies. Therefore, they have not been included as cross-cutting issues in the present review.

B. Results

8. A total of 407 recommendations made by SBSTTA were reviewed (table 1), of which 365 (90 per cent) were either partially adopted or adopted with modifications (30 per cent) or fully endorsed (60 per cent) by the Conference of the Parties. The adoption rate was fairly consistent from one SBSTTA meeting to the other, ranging from 84 to 94 per cent.

Table 1: SBSTTA recommendations adopted fully or partially by the Conference of the Parties, arranged by SBSTTA meeting

SBSTTA meeting	Total number of recommendations to the Conference of the Parties	Adoption rate (per cent)		Overall adoption rate (per cent)
		In full	Partially or with modifications	
SBSTTA 1 (Sep 1995)	41	46	44	90
SBSTTA 2 (Sep 1996)	67	67	25	92
SBSTTA 3 (Sep. 1997)	55	49	35	84
SBSTTA 4 (Jun 1999)	44	75	14	89
SBSTTA 5 (Feb. 2000)	80	66	28	94
SBSTTA 6 (Mar 2001)	44	57	34	91
SBSTTA 7 (Nov 2001)	76	59	29	88
AVERAGE	58	60	30	90
TOTAL	407			

9. Table 2 presents the proportion of SBSTTA recommendations adopted or partially adopted by the Conference of the Parties arranged by thematic areas and cross-cutting issues of the Convention. All recommendations considered for the purpose of deriving these quantitative results can be found in annex I below.

10. The percentage figures in table 2 suggest that SBSTTA recommendations relating to the main thematic programmes of work of the Convention have had a high adoption rate, all exceeding 90 per cent. The same applies to the cross-cutting issues under the Convention. The 100-percent figures for cross cutting issues such as the ecosystem approach and incentive measures indicate that all relevant SBSTTA recommendations were taken on board in the relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties. However, as can be noted in table 2 and annex I, only a relatively small number of recommendations were made under the ecosystem approach and incentive measures (including valuation) compared to other items, which may provide some explanation on their high adoption rate.

Table 2. SBSTTA recommendations that were adopted fully or partially, arranged by thematic area and cross-cutting issue

SBSTTA recommendations	Total number of recommendations to COP	Percent adopted		Overall adoption in percent
		In full	Partially or with modifications	
Thematic programmes of work				
Marine and coastal biodiversity	32	53	41	94
Agricultural biodiversity	46	48	48	96
Forest biodiversity	27	44	48	92
Dry and sub-humid land biodiversity	14	57	36	93
Inland waters biodiversity	20	80	15	95
Cross-cutting issues				
Identification, monitoring, indicators and assessments	35	83	3	86
Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI)	21	71	24	95
Invasive alien species	39	74	23	97
Sustainable use; biodiversity and tourism	21	67	29	96
Ecosystem approach	6	67	33	100
Valuation/incentive measures	8	75	25	100
AVERAGE	25	65	30	95
TOTAL	269			

C. Discussion of the results

11. The initial discussion in the present section attempts to elucidate:

(a) The differences (however slight) between SBSTTA meeting in particular between the third meeting (which had the lowest adoption rate at 84 per cent) and the second and third meetings (which had the highest adoption rates at 93 and 94 per cent, respectively);

(b) The reasons that some recommendations were not adopted. An effort will be made to consider them individually to see if a pattern emerges; an attempt will also be made to see whether some of these recommendations had been proposed by the Executive Secretary or were drafted with assistance from a liaison group or ad hoc technical expert group, or if a topic was just controversial, or if there was insufficient scientific information; and

(c) The reason that some recommendations were partially adopted or only after modifications, and the nature of these modifications. This information could serve as a direct indication of the type of improvements the Conference of the Parties would like to see in SBSTTA recommendations.

1. Differences in the adoption rate between SBSTTA meetings

12. Differences in percentage of SBSTTA recommendations adopted by the Conference of the Parties between SBSTTA meetings were not significant. There was no apparent correlation between the total number of recommendations to the Conference of the Parties, or the total number of items on the agenda of each SBSTTA, or the scientific nature of the recommendations and the rate of adoption of SBSTTA recommendations by the Conference of the Parties, although it may have been anticipated that a lengthy

agenda would hinder SBSTTA to prepare and adequately finalize its advice. In addition, it was considered that scientific, technical and technological depth of SBSTTA recommendations made to the Conference of the Parties has generally increased from the first to the seventh meeting. This trend could be attributable to the fact that earlier recommendations were more general in nature encompassing several thematic areas and cross-cutting issues of the Convention.

13. A comparison of the recommendations from the fifth and the third meetings of SBSTTA, representing the highest and lowest percentage of adoption, indicates that the adoption rate was not been influenced by the way in which the pre-session documents were prepared (with or without the assistance of a liaison group and/or other relevant organizations), nor by whether or not, during SBSTTA meetings, the recommendations were drafted by the Chair, Friends of the Chair or a contact group. However, it could be noted that the main themes for in-depth consideration at the fifth meeting of SBSTTA were probably the least politically controversial of any SBSTTA meeting.

2. Recommendations not adopted

14. The subject-matter of recommendations that were not adopted by the Conference of the Parties is listed in table 3. A preliminary analysis indicates that recommendations not adopted by the Conference of the Parties for the most part included either finance-related provisions (seven recommendations), the involvement other international forums (five recommendations), requests to Parties to undertake national-level actions (five recommendations), or proposed action concerning Article 8(j) of the Convention, access and benefit sharing (ABS) and Biosafety Protocol, all of which are now being addressed in different subsidiary bodies (four recommendations).

Table 3. Subject-matter of recommendations not adopted in decisions of the Conference of the Parties

SBSTTA	Ref.	Recommendation
SBSTTA 1	I/3 para.7 I/8 para. 7, 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial and budgetary advice Recommendations to the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD)
SBSTTA 2	II/4 para.4 II/5 para.1, 4, 5 II/7 para.41	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 8 (j) issues Biosafety related issues Parties develop integrated resource management (agricultural biodiversity)
SBSTTA 3	III/1A – IV. III/6 para.2 III/6 para. 4,5,6 III/7 para. 6,7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financing of inland waters biodiversity projects Provision of guidance to GEF (financial resources) Parties develop and make available best practices in scientific and technological cooperation (via for example the CHM) Call for additional voluntary resources by the Parties
SBSTTA 4	IV/1C para.2, 9 IV/2 para.2 (c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 8(j) issues, access and benefit sharing issues Funding for GTI
SBSTTA 5	V/1 para.4 (c) V/4 para. 10 V/9 para.3 V/13 para.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cooperation with the Millennium Assessment Parties and others to give priority to implementation of alien invasive species and action plans as soon as they are developed Financial arrangements for national reports Guidelines for future national reports
SBSTTA 6	VI/5 para.14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial resources to support assessment processes

SBSTTA	Ref.	Recommendation
SBSTTA 7	VII/3 para.4 VII/5 (b) VII/6 para.1 (g) VII/6 para.1 (n) VII/8 para.3 VII/10 para.1 (d) VII/10 para.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disseminate information through the clearing-house mechanism in collaboration with UNCCD • Invite CSD to report back on WSSD • Role of the Convention Secretariat as focal/lead agency in forest biodiversity within the Collaborative Partnership on Forests • Parties undertake national level coordination work relating to forest biodiversity at an international level (CBD and UNFF related work) • Analysis of opportunities for implementation of the GSPC through Convention programme of work, in particular the ecosystem approach and GTI • Emphasis on the development of targets, criteria and indicators for screening projects and policies in developing guidelines for environmental impact assessment/strategic impact assessment • Article 8(j) and impact assessment draft guidelines

15. In addition, some members of bureaux of the Conference of the Parties and SBSTTA identified lack of adequate consultation and lack of consensus when adopting some recommendations during SBSTTA meetings as possible reasons for non-adoption of some SBSTTA recommendations by the Conference of the Parties.

3. *Recommendations that have been partially adopted or adopted with modifications*

16. Recommendations that have been partially adopted or adopted with modifications are given in full in annex II below. The overall review revealed no obvious pattern that could explain partial or modified adoption of SBSTTA recommendations by Conference of the Parties. However, it was observed that when SBSTTA recommendations addressed issues relating to sovereign rights of States over their natural resources, for example in the case of recommendation I/7 on the conservation and utilization of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture or recommendation VII/6 on forest biodiversity, the Conference of the Parties made modifications so that implementation of the adopted decision became the responsibility of individual States. Table 4 presents a few examples of the extent of change that took place in the text of SBSTTA recommendations when adopted as decisions of the Conference of the Parties. A detailed compilation of SBSTTA recommendations partially adopted or adopted with modifications by the Conference of the Parties can be found in annex II.

Table 4. Examples of recommendations partially adopted or adopted with modifications in decisions of the Conference of the Parties

SBSTTA recommendation	Corresponding decision of the Conference of the Parties
<p>Recommendation I/7 The first meeting of the SBSTTA recommends to the second meeting of the Conference of Parties to consider the following: A possible statement from the Conference of the Parties to the fourth International Technical Conference on the Conservation and Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, to be held in June 1996 [...] It may also include the following elements: (a) [...]; (b) [...]; (c) [...]; (d) the large number of Parties (127) to the Convention on Biological Diversity committed to implementing the comprehensive provisions of the Convention and the fulfillment of its objectives; (e) [...] etc.</p>	<p>Para 8 of the annex to decision II/16 The statement for the International Technical Conference on the Conservation and Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture prepared by the Conference of the Parties at its second meeting is annexed to decision II/16. Paragraph 8 of the statement contains the elements listed in SBSTTA recommendation I/7. However, element (d) of SBSTTA recommendation was omitted and a new subparagraph (h) added, referring to the “sovereign rights of States over their natural resources”. It should be noted that elements (e) and (h) in SBSTTA recommendation were modified by the Conference of the Parties without changing the original meaning and are therefore considered as adopted fully by the Conference of the Parties.</p>
<p>Recommendation VII/6 Recommends that the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting urges Parties and other governments to incorporate relevant objectives and related activities of the programme of work into their national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national forest programmes;</p>	<p>Decision VI//22, para. 11 Recognizes that Parties should implement the expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity in the context of their national priorities and needs. Activities implemented domestically by Parties will be prioritized based on country and regionally specific needs, national determination, legislation, circumstances and priorities concerning forest-related issues, and their national forest and biodiversity strategies. Inclusion of an activity in the work programme does not mean relevance of that activity to all Parties.</p>

III. IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF SBSTTA RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

17. The present section reviews the implementation status of SBSTTA recommendations adopted by the Conference of the Parties that require actions by the Executive Secretary, the Parties, other conventions and organizations. This exercise was carried out with a view to identifying some of the difficulties in implementing SBSTTA recommendations, so that SBSTTA may address these difficulties in future recommendations and subsequently improves the quality of its advice to the Conference of the Parties in addition to facilitating the implementation of recommendations by relevant actors.

1. Implementation by the Executive Secretary

18. A review of the status of implementation by the Executive Secretary of SBSTTA recommendations adopted by the Conference of the Parties reveals that the Executive Secretary has addressed all requests directed to him. However, the main constraints faced in implementing those decisions by the Executive Secretary lay in limited human and financial resources in light of the expanding work programmes of the Convention, and poor responses from Parties with regard to submission of requested information and case-studies.

2. *Implementation by Parties*

19. The first and second national reports submitted under Article 26 of the Convention can provide only general assessment of the implementation of decisions of the Conference of the Parties adopted on the recommendation of SBSTTA. The national reports were not designed for the purpose of identifying the extent to which Parties have undertaken each and every activity mentioned in decisions of the Conference of the Parties and the programmes of work. Thematic reports could, however, provide the kind of information needed. To date, a limited number of Parties have submitted thematic reports on forest biodiversity, on invasive alien species, and on mountain biodiversity.

20. Some of the main constraints in the implementation by Parties of decisions of the Conference of the Parties, as identified by the members of the bureaux of the Conference of the Parties and SBSTTA, include:

(a) Inadequate financial and human resources (in both the developed and developing countries);

(b) Difficulties in responding to SBSTTA recommendations and decisions of the Conference of the Parties within the deadlines set, especially when implementing certain provisions such as those requiring legislative changes and further research is a lengthy process;

(c) Recommendations are not generally action-oriented and hence are not prioritized in national agendas; and

(d) Constraints are encountered when implementing politically sensitive recommendations, especially in areas such as marine and coastal, agriculture and forest ecosystems.

3. *Implementation by organizations*

21. As part of the recent evaluation of the implementation of the programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity, a questionnaire was sent to a number of relevant international and regional organizations regarding their activities. Each of the 11 responding organizations is involved in implementing either some or all of the elements of the programme of work. The organizations provided information on a large number of ongoing projects on the topics of implementation of integrated marine and coastal area management; conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal living resources; establishment and management of marine and coastal protected areas; implementation of sustainable mariculture; and prevention of the introduction of invasive alien species in the marine and coastal environments. Obtaining such information should be a key component in evaluating the implementation of the Convention by other conventions and organizations.

IV. CONCLUSIONS

22. The initial purpose of the review of all SBSTTA recommendations to the Conference of the Parties was to identify elements that could suggest how inputs from the Subsidiary Body to the Conference of the Parties could be improved. The first part of the review—the determination of the proportion of SBSTTA recommendations fully adopted, adopted partially or with modifications or not adopted by the Conference of the Parties—has been completed. However, additional information is needed to complete the second part regarding implementation by Parties, other Governments and organizations of decisions of the Conference of the Parties derived from SBSTTA recommendations.

23. To do so, a more systematic review process may be necessary. This will give an idea as to whether or not recommendations have been implemented and why. SBSTTA could then take into account the identified constraints while preparing its advice to the Conference of the Parties. There could

be various ways in which such a review could take place, one of which is the preparation of thematic reports addressing each of the decisions of the Conference of the Parties derived from SBSTTA recommendations. A survey could also be carried out on the occasion of meetings of the Conference of the Parties to find out why some SBSTTA recommendations have not been endorsed by the Conference of the Parties.

24. Regarding ways through which the quality of SBSTTA recommendations could be improved, the present review did not provide a clear indication of actions to be taken. It should, however, be borne in mind that those SBSTTA recommendations not adopted by the Conference of the Parties were essentially those with political and financial implications. Suggestions provided by the members of the bureaux of SBSTTA and Conference of the Parties indicate, *inter alia*, that the continuity of SBSTTA membership, adequate consultation in regional groups prior to SBSTTA meetings and formulation of recommendations based on consensus were necessary. In addition, it was suggested that SBSTTA needs to make action-oriented recommendations that could be easily integrated and/or prioritized in national agendas.

*Annex I***SBSTTA RECOMMENDATIONS ON THEMATIC WORK PROGRAMMES AND CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES**

Thematic programme of work	Recommendation reference	Main subject-matter of recommendation
Marine and coastal biodiversity	I/8; Para. 6 - 19	Scientific, technical and technological aspects of the conservation and sustainable use of coastal and marine biological diversity
	II/10; Para. 1-3	Coastal and marine biodiversity
	III/2; Para. 1,2	Scientific, technical and technological aspects of the conservation and sustainable use of coastal and marine biological diversity: report of the first meeting of experts on marine and coastal biodiversity and consideration of a draft 3-year work plan
	V/6; Para. 1-7	Marine and coastal biological diversity – implementation tools for the programme of work and analysis of coral bleaching
	V/14; Para. 1-3	AHTEG on marine and coastal protected areas and identification of best practices for mariculture
	VI/2; Para. 1-4	Marine and coastal biological diversity – progress report on the implementation of the programme of work, including the integration of coral reefs
Agricultural biodiversity	II/7; Para. 24-42	Agricultural biological diversity
	III/4; (a) - (d)	Review of ongoing activities on agricultural biological diversity
	V/9; Para. 1-4	Agricultural biological diversity – assessment of ongoing activities and priorities for a programme of work
	VII/7; Para. 3, 4 (a), 4 (d), 4 (e), 5 (b), 5 (c), 7	Agricultural biological diversity
Forest biodiversity	II/8 - 2	Terrestrial biological diversity
	III/3; Para. 1-7	Advice on forest biological diversity taking account of research and technical priorities previously identified
	V/7; Para. 1-6	Forest biological diversity – status and trends and identification of options for conservation and sustainable use
	VII/6; Para. 1 (a)-(n)	Forest biological diversity
Dry and sub-humid lands biodiversity	II/8 –1	Terrestrial biological diversity
	IV/3; (a), (b)	Assessment of the status and trends and options for conservation and sustainable use of terrestrial biological diversity; dryland, Mediterranean, arid, semi-arid, grassland and savannah ecosystems
	V/8; Para. 1-7	Biological diversity of dryland, Mediterranean, arid, semi-arid, grassland and savannah ecosystems – development of a programme of work
	VII/3; Para. 1-4	Biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands – progress report on implementation of the programme of work
Inland waters biodiversity	III/1 - A; I- IV	The main ecosystem topic: assessment of the status and trends of the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems and identification of options for conservation and sustainable use
	III/1 - B	Provision of scientific advice and further guidance to assist in the national elaboration of annex 1 of the Convention (as pertaining to inland water ecosystems)

Thematic programme of work	Recommendation reference	Main subject-matter of recommendation
	III/1- C; Para. 1-7	Review of methodologies for assessment of biological diversity (as pertaining to inland water ecosystems)
	V/5; Para. 1-5	Inland water biological diversity
	VI/3; Para. 3	Biological diversity of inland water ecosystems
Cross-cutting Issues	Recommendation Reference	Main headings of recommendation
Identification, monitoring, indicators and assessments	II/1; Para. 23-26	Assessment of biological diversity and methodologies for future assessments; Identification, monitoring and assessment of components of biological diversity and of processes that have adverse impacts; Review and promotion of indicators of biological diversity
	III/5; (a) - (i)	Current approaches to indicator development and recommendations for a preliminary core set of indicators of biodiversity, particularly those related to threats, and options for capacity-building in developing countries in the application of guidelines and indicators for subsequent national reports
	IV/6; (a) - (e)	Incorporation of biological diversity considerations into environmental impact assessment
	V/11; Para. 1-4	Development of indicators of biological diversity
	VI/5; Para. 14	Scientific assessment – development of methodologies and identification of pilot studies
	VII/2; Para. 6-9	Assessment processes: progress report on ongoing assessments
	VII/10; Para.1 (a)-(e), 2	Further development of guidelines for incorporating biodiversity-related issues into EIA legations and/or processes and in SEA
	VII/11; Para. 2 (a)-(c)	Designing national-level monitoring programme and indicators
Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI)	II/2; Para. 1-10	Practical approaches for capacity-building for taxonomy
	IV/2; Para. 2-4	Further advancement of the GTI
	V/3; Para. 1 (a)-(d), 2	Review of Global Taxonomy Initiative
	VI/6; Para. 1-2	The GTI – programme of work
Invasive alien species	IV/4; (d) – (j)	Development of guiding principles for the prevention of impacts of alien species and identifying priority areas of work on isolated ecosystems and giving recommendations for further development of the GISP
	V/4; Para. 1-10	Alien species – guiding principles for the prevention, introduction and mitigation of impacts
	VI/4; Para. 1, 5, 6, 8-11, 13-18, 21-19	Alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitat or species
Sustainable use; biodiversity and tourism	IV/7; Para. (a)-(g)	Development of approaches and practices for the sustainable use of biological resources, including tourism
	V/12; Para. 1-6	Sustainable use of the components of biological diversity – identification of sectoral activities that could adopt biodiversity-friendly practices and technologies
	VII/4; Para. 2-4	Progress in the development of practical principles, operational guidance and associated instruments on sustainable use
	VII/5; Para. (a)-(e)	Sustainable tourism
Ecosystem approach	V/10; Para. 1-6	Ecosystem approach – further conceptual elaboration

Thematic programme of work	Recommendation reference	Main subject-matter of recommendation
Valuation/Incentive measures	II/9; Para. 1-4	Economic evaluation of biological diversity
	VII/9; Para.1-2, 8-9	Incentive measures

Annex II

SBSTTA RECOMMENDATIONS PARTIALLY ADOPTED OR ADOPTED WITH MODIFICATIONS AS DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

SBSTTA meeting	SBSTTA recommendation	Corresponding decision of the Conference of the Parties
SBSTTA 1	Rec. I/3: Alternative ways and means in which the Conference of the Parties could start the process of considering the components of biological diversity particularly those under threat and the identification of action which could be taken under the Convention	Reflected in COP 2 decision II/8 (para.6 (i)): Encouraged Parties, as part of their first national report which will focus particularly on Article 6, to identify priority issues specifically related to those components of biological diversity under threat, based upon paragraphs 1, 2, 4 and 5 of recommendation I/3 of the report of the first meeting of the SBSTTA
	Rec. I/4: Ways and means to promote and facilitate access to, and transfer and development of technology as envisaged in Articles 16 and 18 of the Convention:	
	(d) The Conference of the Parties request the Executive Secretary to prepare, for consideration by the SBSTTA at its second meeting, a substantive and well-focused background document, taking into account the views expressed by States Parties and observers during the first meeting of SBSTTA, the deliberations and decisions of the first and second meetings of the Conference of the Parties, including those decisions related to the clearing-house mechanism, and the deliberations of the first and second sessions of the Intergovernmental Committee on the Convention on Biological Diversity, and of the open-ended Intergovernmental Meeting of Scientific Experts on Biological Diversity, held in Mexico in April 1994;	Endorsed at COP 2 in decision II/4 (para.2) with the following additions after “Mexico in April 1994”: [including its annexed UNEP Expert Panel Reports I to IV. Such a background document should consider the importance of biotechnology to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, especially to developing countries, as well as the enabling roles of capacity-building and the provision of adequate financial resources]
	(e) The Conference of the Parties request the Executive Secretary to invite relevant submissions by States Parties, observers and relevant international and non-governmental organizations, including, in particular, the private sector, and to take these into account in the preparation of the background document. Subject to the approval of the Conference of the Parties, the background document should identify key priority issues and contain specific proposals for consideration by the SBSTTA for recommendation to the Conference of the Parties. To assist in the preparation of the background document, the Executive Secretary may, as appropriate, establish a liaison group, in accordance with recommendation I/1 on the <i>modus operandi</i> of the SBSTTA.	Endorsed with modification at COP 2 in decision II/4 (para.3) with the following additions: [...including, in particular, the Commission on Sustainable Development and the private sector ... The document should also take due cognisance of regional and subregional inputs and comments. The background document should identify key priority issues relating to opportunities for and obstacles to the transfer of technology for consideration by the SBSTTA]
	Rec. I/7: Contribution to the preparation for the International Technical Conference on the Conservation and Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture in 1996 (d) the large number of Parties (127) to the Convention on Biological Diversity committed to implementing the comprehensive provision of the Convention and the fulfillment of its objectives	Statement made at COP 2 in decision II/16 and its annex: decision omitted element “(d) the large number of Parties (127) to the Convention on Biological Diversity committed to implementing the comprehensive provision of the Convention and the fulfillment of its objectives” and added element outlining the <i>sovereign rights of States over their natural resources</i>

SBSTTA meeting	SBSTTA recommendation	Corresponding decision of the Conference of the Parties
	Rec. I/8: Scientific, technical and technological aspects of the conservation and sustainable use of coastal and marine biological diversity	Supported paras. 10-19 at COP 2 in decision II/10 and its further elaboration by SBSTTA and COP. Further elaborate recommendations contained in I/8, with the exception of paras.3 and 4. COP commented paras.10-19 unbalanced (fishery issue too emphasized)
	14. The SBSTTA recommends to the Conference of the Parties: (a) To identify constraints, including economic, for conversion of fishing gear and phase-out of fishing over-capacity, and the possibility of reducing subsidies for fisheries; (b) To offer the technical expertise of the SBSTTA to offer advice on the draft FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries in order to ensure its consistency and conformity with the objectives and provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity; (c) To take into account the ecosystem functions and processes identifying and targeting critical processes for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity; (d) To ask the FAO, or other appropriate bodies, to collate information on the availability of selective fishing gear and methods, possibly through the convening of an ad hoc intersessional panel on marine and coastal biodiversity; and (e) To urge the Parties not yet signatories to the Agreement on Straddling and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks to sign the Agreement.	In relation to paragraph 14(a), the inclusion of subsidies was contentious . Some delegates stressed that the issue of subsidies was politically sensitive, with potential trade implications . It was noted that these issues address one of the underlying causes of biological diversity loss, viz, the result of over-fishing, and this consideration remained an important recommendation from the report of the SBSTTA. Also, in relation to paragraph 14, cooperation between regional fisheries bodies and regional organizations for protection and conservation of the marine environment should be promoted.
SBSTTA 2	Rec. II/6: The role of CHM in promoting technical and scientific cooperation 2. Request the Secretariat to facilitate regional workshops with a view to clearly defining country and regional-level scientific and technical information needs for the implementation of the Convention. The workshops could also review ventures of scientific and technical cooperation furthering the objectives of the Convention to identify the ways in which the clearing-house mechanism can best facilitate such cooperation. In view of the Conference of Parties budget decision it will be necessary to encourage voluntary contributions to enable the regional workshops.	Adopted in decision III/4 para.5 with minor modifications: Requests Governments and relevant financial, scientific and technical institutions to facilitate, including through the provision of voluntary contributions, regional workshops with a view to attaining a clear definition of country and regional-level scientific and technical information needs and priorities identified and modalities to deliver information and evaluate national capacities for the implementation of the Convention. Such workshops should also review experience in scientific and technical cooperation in support of the objectives of the Convention, in order to identify ways by which the CHM can best facilitate such cooperation;
	4. Recognize that ownership and control of all information remain with the providers, [respecting the rights of countries of origin and of indigenous and local communities].	Adopted at COP 3 in decision III/4 para.9 but omitted text after “providers”...(in brackets)
	Rec. II/7: Agricultural biological diversity	
	31. The SBSTTA recommends that the Conference of the Parties encourage: (i) the transformation of unsustainable agricultural technological approaches into sustainable production practices adapted to local biotic and abiotic conditions. (ii) the development, maintenance and mobilization of local knowledge of farmers and of farming communities, with special reference to gender roles in food	Reflected at COP 3 decision III/11 para.17; Recommendation fully adopted with one additional point: 17(b) on farming practices

SBSTTA meeting	SBSTTA recommendation	Corresponding decision of the Conference of the Parties
	production for sustainable development.	
	33. The SBSTTA recommends that the Conference of the Parties encourage at national and regional levels adequate and appropriate services to farmers and responsiveness of public research and extension services.	Adopted at COP 3 decision III/11 para.15 (j); added at the end of sentence – “and development of genuine partnerships”.
	36. The SBSTTA recommends that the Conference of the Parties draw the attention of international funding agencies, in particular the Global Environmental Facility, to the urgent need to support the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity important to agriculture and invite these agencies to provide information and feedback in this respect to the Conference of the Parties.	Adopted at COP 3 decision III/11 para.22 with the following additions at the end: [...and in this context, requests the interim financial mechanism to give priority to supporting efforts for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity important to agriculture in accordance with this]
	38. The SBSTTA recommends that the Conference of the Parties encourage relevant institutions to strengthen the culture of indigenous communities to encourage in-situ conservation (sustainable use and management) of biological diversity.	Adopted at COP 3 decision III/11 para.15 (f) with additional mention of [...building on the indigenous knowledge systems].
	<p>42. The SBSTTA recommends that the Conference of the Parties encourage Parties to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • encourage the development of technologies/farming systems that not only increase productivity, but also arrest degradation as well as reclaim, rehabilitate, restore and enhance biological diversity. These could • include, inter alia, organic farming, integrated pest management, biological control, no-till agriculture, multi-cropping, inter-cropping, crop rotation, • agricultural forestry. • Encourage efforts to appraise and disseminate knowledge used or retained by indigenous and traditional communities, consistent with the • Convention, in particular Articles 8(j) and 10(c). • Encourage ex ante and/or ex post evaluation of impacts to biological diversity from agricultural development projects, to assure the use of best practices to promote the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity. • Encourage development and adoption of methods to assess and predict impacts on biological diversity of agricultural technologies, practices and production systems. <p>Identify key components of biological diversity in agricultural production systems responsible for maintaining natural processes and cycles, evaluating the effects of different agricultural practices and technologies on those components and encouraging the adoption of repairing practices to attain appropriate levels of biological diversity</p>	Partially adopted at COP 3 decision III/11 para.15 (e), (g), (m), (a) - No reference to Article 8(j) and 10(c) found (omission)

SBSTTA meeting	SBSTTA recommendation	Corresponding decision of the Conference of the Parties
SBSTTA 3	Rec. III/1-A: The main ecosystem topic: assessment of the status and trends of the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems and identification of options for conservation and sustainable use;	Adopted on the basis of modified Rec. III/1 as contained in UNEP/CBD/COP/4/2 annex I at COP 4 decision IV/4 para.1
	<p>I. General recommendations:</p> <p>(a) That the Executive Secretary continue and further develop the collaboration with organizations, institutions, and conventions working with research, management and conservation of inland water biological diversity. These include (but are not limited to) the Ramsar Convention, FAO, ICLARM, Global Water Partnership, World Water Council, UNDP, UNEP, Diversitas, Wetlands International, IUCN, World Bank, Bonn Convention, et al;</p> <p>(b) That, at the earliest opportunity, the Conference of the Parties should further encourage the Executive Secretary of this Convention and the Secretary-General of the Ramsar Convention to elaborate a work plan that ensures cooperation, and avoids overlap between the two conventions, noting the Memorandum of Cooperation with the Ramsar Convention, and decision III/21 of the Conference of the Parties, whereby the Ramsar Convention would be a lead partner in inland water ecosystems;</p> <p>(c) That the Conference of the Parties should continue the close cooperation with the Commission on Sustainable Development in their development of the Strategic Approach to Freshwater Management to ensure that biological diversity issues are considered in this process;</p> <p>(d) That the Conference of the Parties request that the Executive Secretary develop a roster of experts on the conservation and sustainable use of the biological diversity of inland waters, and urge Governments to nominate experts to the roster, noting also that the Ramsar Bureau is establishing a similar list of experts;</p> <p>(e) That the clearing-house mechanism be used to promote and facilitate the exchange of information and the transfer of technology relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of inland water biological diversity</p>	<p>Changed Ramsar Convention to Convention on Wetlands in the decision text</p> <p>Paragraphs added in 1. General: Recognizing the immediate threats to the inland water ecosystems and associated biological diversity of small island States, the Conference of the Parties requests the Executive Secretary and the SBSTTA to pay special attention to early cooperation with the small island States in the development of rapid-assessment methodologies. Recognizing that in the territories of certain States there are inland water ecosystems suffering from ecological disaster, the Conference of the Parties requests the Executive Secretary and the SBSTTA to pay special attention to early cooperation in assessing such disasters and mitigating activities and in developing rapid assessment methodologies within these States.</p>

SBSTTA meeting	SBSTTA recommendation	Corresponding decision of the Conference of the Parties
	<p>II. SBSTTA Work Plan</p> <p>(a) Compiling case studies of effective watershed management and best practices, to synthesize the lessons that emerge from these studies, and to disseminate information through the clearing-house mechanism. Five areas where the SBSTTA should concentrate their efforts include:</p> <p>(i) Examples of watershed management that incorporate inland water biological diversity with special reference to examples that use the ecosystem-based approach to meet water management goals;</p> <p>(ii) Examples of water resource development projects (water supply and sanitation, irrigation, hydropower, flood control, navigation, groundwater extraction) that incorporate biological diversity considerations;</p> <p>(iii) Impact assessment and other methodologies that address inland water biological diversity issues in an adaptive management framework;</p> <p>(iv) Successful case studies of remedial action, including restoration and rehabilitation of degraded inland water ecosystems;</p> <p>(v) Examples of equitable sharing of benefits derived from use of inland water biological diversity.</p>	<p>(vi) and (vii) added:</p> <p>(vi) Examples of the impacts of invasive alien species and of programmes used to control their introduction and mitigate negative consequences on inland water ecosystems especially at the watershed, catchment and river basin level; (vii) Use of protected areas and their management strategies for conservation and sustainable use of inland water ecosystems</p>
	<p>III. Recommendations to Parties</p> <p>SBSTTA further recommends to the Conference of the Parties that Parties:</p> <p><i>Watershed management</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the use of integrated watershed management approach as a basis of the planning and taking decisions in relation to the use of land and water resources, including biological resources, within river catchment; 	<p>(i) Encourage the adoption of integrated land and watershed management approaches based on watersheds, catchments and river basins for the protection, use, planning and management of inland water ecosystems;</p> <p>(ii) Encourage the adoption of integrated watershed, catchment and river basin management strategies to maintain, restore or improve the quality and supply of inland water resources and the economic, social, hydrological, biological diversity and other functions and values of inland water ecosystems;</p>
	<p><i>Appropriate technologies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the use of low-cost (appropriate) technology, non-structural and innovative approaches to meet watershed management goals, such as using wetlands to improve water quality, using forests and wetlands to recharge groundwater and maintain the hydrological cycle, to protect water supplies and using natural floodplains to prevent flood damage, and to use indigenous species for aquaculture; 	<p>Added:</p> <p>Encourage the development of preventative strategies such as cleaner production, continual environmental improvement, corporate environmental reporting, product stewardship and environmentally sound technologies to avoid degradation and promote restoration of inland water ecosystems;</p>
	<p><i>Sustainable use</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage valuation of inland water biological diversity; • Produce and promote guidance on the sustainable use of inland waters to maintain biological diversity; • Consider the use and/or establishment of gene banks for fish and other species; 	<p>Added:</p> <p>Support the conservation and sustainable use of inland water biological diversity through the establishment and implementation of appropriate legal, administrative and incentive measures;</p>

SBSTTA meeting	SBSTTA recommendation	Corresponding decision of the Conference of the Parties
	<p><i>Environmental impact assessments</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage environmental impact assessments (EIAs) of water development projects, aquaculture, and watershed activities including agriculture, forestry, and mining. EIAs need to gather adequate biological data to document effects on biological diversity, provide predictions on the effects of alternative project scenarios on ecosystems and consider the valuation of the goods and services of potentially affected ecosystems, and test predictions with well-designed sampling schemes that can adequately distinguish the effects of anthropogenic activities from natural processes; 	<p>Added: Encourage EIAs which assess the impacts, not only of individual proposed projects, but also the cumulative effects of existing and proposed developments on the watershed, catchment or river basin;</p>
	<p><i>Alien species, genotypes and genetically modified organisms</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise awareness of the possible problems and costs associated with the deliberate or accidental introduction of alien species, genotypes and genetically modified organisms which adversely affect aquatic biological diversity, bearing in mind the activities relating to the development of a Protocol on Biosafety under the Convention. Policies and guidelines should be developed to prevent and control such introductions, and to rehabilitate sites where possible 	<p>Added: This work should be coordinated with the cross-cutting work being addressed in the decision regarding the work of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice on alien species (decision IV/1 C)</p>
	<p><i>Transboundary cooperation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop effective cooperation for sustainable management of transboundary watersheds and migratory species including watershed planning commissions; 	<p>Develop and maintain effective cooperation for sustainable management of transboundary watersheds, catchments, river basins and migratory species through appropriate mechanisms such as bilateral and multilateral agreements;</p>
	<p><i>Involvement of local and indigenous communities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involve, as far as possible and appropriate, local and indigenous communities in the development of management plans and in projects that may affect inland water biological diversity; • Implement Article 8 (j) as related to inland water biological diversity; 	<p>Added: Encourage the involvement and participation of affected parties including end-users and communities in policy-making, planning and implementation;</p>

SBSTTA meeting	SBSTTA recommendation	Corresponding decision of the Conference of the Parties
	<p><i>Economic and legal instruments</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the range and effectiveness of national incentives, subsidies, regulations, and other relevant financial mechanisms which have the ability to affect inland water ecosystems, whether adversely or beneficially; • Redirect financial support measures which run counter to the objectives of the Convention regarding the biological diversity of inland waters; • Implement targeted incentive and regulatory measures that have positive impacts on the biological diversity of inland waters; • Develop the policy research capacity needed to inform the decision-making process in a multi-disciplinary and sectorally integrated manner 	<p>Added: At appropriate levels (regional, national, subnational and local), encourage the identification of stressed rivers, the allocation and reservation of water for ecosystem maintenance, and the maintenance of environmental flows as an integral component of appropriate legal, administrative and economic mechanisms;</p>
	<p>Rec. III/6: Promotion of international technical and scientific cooperation: Report on the pilot phase of the CHM</p>	<p>Reflected at COP 4 decision IV/2</p>
	<p>10. Recommend that, in building up the content of information in the clearing-house mechanism either at the secretariat or other level, the following major content elements, among others, be used: Secretariat level: Convention on Biological Diversity and its implementation, national focal points, international themes, financial sources; Other level: country profile, national strategy and action plans, national legislation, scientific and technological information;</p>	<p>Reflected at COP 4 decision IV/2 para.5 Other level modified to National, subregional and regional levels: country profiles, biodiversity strategy and action plans, appropriate legislation, scientific and technological information, financial sources;</p>
<p>SBSTTA 4</p>	<p>Rec. IV/4: Development of guiding principles for the prevention of impacts of alien species and identifying priority areas of work on isolated ecosystems and giving recommendations for further development of the GISP</p>	<p>Reflected in COP 5 decision V/8</p>
	<p>(d) Invite the Global Invasive Species Programme to undertake a comprehensive review on the efficiency and efficacy of existing measures for prevention, early detection, eradication and control of alien species and their impacts, giving priority to measures pertinent to the issue of alien species in geographically and evolutionarily isolated ecosystems and to report thereon to the SBSTTA-6;</p>	<p>Adopted with modification at COP 5 decision V/8 para.15: Requests the ES, in collaboration with the GISP, the FAO, the International Maritime Organization, the WHO and other relevant organizations and instruments to develop a paper for consideration by the SBSTTA and the COP-6: (a) A comprehensive review on the efficiency and efficacy of existing measures for prevention, early detection, eradication and control of alien invasive species and their impacts; (b) A progress report on the matters listed in paragraphs 5 and 14 of the present decision; (c) All options for future work on alien invasive species under the CBD, which would provide practical support to Parties, Governments and organizations in the implementation of Article 8(h) of the Convention and lead to the full and effective implementation of Article 8(h);</p>

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	(e) Request the Global Invasive Species Programme, in developing a global strategy to deal with alien species, to ensure consistency with the provisions on alien species in Article 8(h) of the Convention and relevant provisions within other articles, including Article 14, taking into full account considerations on alien species within relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties on, for example, the conservation and sustainable use of inland water, marine and coastal, and forest biological diversity;	Adopted at COP 5 decision V/8 para.10 with addition of biodiversity if dry and sub-humid lands
SBSTTA 5	Rec. V/1: Cooperation with other bodies	
	(d) Invites the Executive Secretary to strengthen the cooperation with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, including its Kyoto Protocol, on issues relevant to forest biological diversity and coral reefs;	Adopted in decision V/21 para.3 with addition: Invites the Executive Secretary to strengthen the cooperation with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, including its Kyoto Protocol, on relevant issues such as dry and sub-humid lands, forest biological diversity, coral reefs, and incentive measures
	Rec. V/2: Pilot phase of the clearing-house mechanism (CHM)	
	(c) Also endorses the longer-term programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism, as contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/5/INF/3, while recognizing that the role of the Informal Advisory Committee is limited to advising the Executive Secretary;	Adopted with modifications in decision V/14 para.5: Endorses the longer-term programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism (UNEP/CBD/COP/5/INF/4), recognizing the important role that country partnerships can play in implementing this programme of work
	Rec. V/3: Review of Global Taxonomy Initiative	
	1. Recommends that the Conference of the Parties at its fifth meeting: (a) Establishes a Global Taxonomy Initiative coordination mechanism to assist the Executive Secretary to facilitate international cooperation and coordinate activities under the Global Taxonomy Initiative. The coordination mechanism should include representatives from key taxonomic institutions (regionally balanced) and initiatives, the International Council of Scientific Unions, the Global Biodiversity Information Facility, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. The Global Taxonomy Initiative coordination mechanism should work closely with the clearing-house mechanism	Adopted at COP 5 decision V/9 para.1 with exclusion of sentences from ["The coordinationUNESCO"]
	Rec. V/4: Alien species – guiding principles for the prevention, introduction and mitigation of impacts	
	1. Invites Parties to take into account the interim guiding principles contained in annex I to the present recommendation in the context of activities aimed at implementing Article 8(h) of the Convention on Biological Diversity;	Adopted at COP 5 decision V/8 para.1 with addition of: ["....and in the various sectors"] at the end

SBSTTA meeting	SBSTTA recommendation	Corresponding decision of the Conference of the Parties
	5. Requests the Executive Secretary, in close collaboration with the Global Invasive Species Programme, relevant organizations and other relevant international and regional binding and non-binding instruments to ensure consistency with the development of standard terminology on alien species (as referred to in recommendation IV/4, paragraphs 4 (f) and 4 (i)), and to further elaborate the interim guiding principles on the prevention, introduction and mitigation of the impacts of alien species, to be considered by the Subsidiary Body at its sixth meeting, in preparation for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;	Reflected at COP 5 decision V/8 para.10: <u>Requests</u> the GISP, in developing a global strategy to deal with alien invasive species, to ensure consistency with the provisions on alien invasive species in Article 8(h) of the Convention and relevant provisions within other articles, including Article 14, taking into full account considerations on alien invasive species within relevant decisions of the COP on, for example, the conservation and sustainable use of inland-water, marine and coastal and forest biological diversity, and the biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands
	7. Invites the Global Invasive Species Programme to report on its September 2000 meeting on the "synthesis of GISP phase 1" to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at its sixth meeting;	Adopted at COP 5 decision V/8 para.13 with the following additions ; recognizing the need to continue the work of the Global Invasive Species Programme through the prompt development of the second phase of the Global Invasive Species Programme, with emphasis on ecosystems vulnerable to alien species invasions
	Rec. V/7: Forest biological diversity – status and trends and identification of options for conservation and sustainable use	
	4. Requests Parties, countries, international organizations and other relevant bodies to provide relevant information on the implementation of the work programme through, inter alia, case-studies, entries in national reports and other means, as appropriate;	Adopted at COP 5 decision V/4 para.7: Invites Parties, countries, international organizations, institutions and processes and other relevant bodies, as well as indigenous and local communities and non-governmental organizations to provide relevant information on the implementation of the work programme through, <u>inter alia</u>, case-studies, entries in national reports and other means, as appropriate
	5. Requests the Executive Secretary to invite the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other forest-related bodies, institutions and processes to contribute to the assessment of status and trends, including gaps and priority actions needed to address threats to forest biological diversity;	Adopted at COP 5 decision V/4 para.15: Requests the ES to invite relevant organizations and forest-related bodies, institutions and processes, including criteria and indicator processes, as well as indigenous and local communities, non-governmental organizations, and other relevant stakeholders to contribute to the assessment of status and trends, including gaps and priority actions needed to address threats to forest biological diversity;

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	6. Requests the Executive Secretary to liaise with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change with regard to, inter alia, the Special Report on Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and with the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, and to seek ways and means to integrate consideration of forest biological diversity in future activities of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change addressing forests and carbon sequestration.	Reflected at COP 5 decision V/4 paras. 17 and 18: Requests the ES to assemble, in collaboration with the UNFCCC and the IPCC, existing information relating to the integration of biodiversity considerations, including biodiversity conservation, in the implementation of the UNFCCC on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol; Requests the SBSTTA, prior to COP6, to prepare scientific advice, where appropriate and feasible in collaboration with the appropriate bodies of the UNFCCC and the IPCC, in order to integrate biodiversity considerations, including biodiversity conservation, in the implementation of the UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol
	Rec. V/8: Biological diversity of dryland, Mediterranean, arid, semi-arid, grassland and savannah ecosystems - development of POW	
	6. Requests the Executive Secretary to establish a roster of experts on the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands and to explore the possibility of establishing an ad hoc technical expert group to assess the loss of biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands;	Adopted at COP 5 decision V/23 para.9: Requests the ES to establish a roster of experts on the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands. This should be carried out in close collaboration with the ES of the UNCCD and other relevant bodies to provide synergy and avoid duplication;
	Rec. V/10: Ecosystem approach – further conceptual elaboration	
	2. Endorses these principles and guidance, as reflecting the present level of common understanding and encourages further conceptual elaboration;	Endorsed at COP 5 decision V/6 para.1 with some additions in the text: Endorses the description of the ecosystem approach and operational guidance contained in sections A and C of the annex to the present decision, recommends the application of the principles contained in section B of the annex, as reflecting the present level of common understanding, and encourages further conceptual elaboration, and practical verification
	6. Addresses the need for support for capacity-building to implement the ecosystem approach.	Adopted at COP 5 decision V/6 para.6 with additions; Recognizes the need for support for capacity-building to implement the ecosystem approach, and invites Parties, Governments and relevant organizations to provide technical and financial support for this purpose;
	Rec. V/12: Sustainable use of the components of biological diversity – identification of sectoral activities that could adopt biodiversity-friendly practices and technologies	
	2. Requests the Executive Secretary to gather, compile and disseminate through the clearing-house mechanism and other means, case-studies on best practices and lessons learned from the use of biological diversity under the thematic areas of the Convention, drawing on the experience of Parties, Governments and relevant organizations such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Commission on Sustainable Development and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, and including, in particular, the Sustainable Use	Adopted at COP 5 decision V/24 para.1 with no mention of specific organizations and addition of the private sector and indigenous and local communities

SBSTTA meeting	SBSTTA recommendation	Corresponding decision of the Conference of the Parties
	Initiative of IUCN-The World Conservation Union;	
SBSTTA 6	Rec.VI/4: Alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitat or species	Reflected in COP 6 decision VI/23
	Encourages Parties and other Governments, in undertaking this work and, in particular, when developing priority actions, to consider the need to: (a) Develop capacity to use risk assessment/analysis to address threats of invasive alien species to biological diversity, and incorporate such methodologies in environmental impact assessments, and strategic environmental assessments, as appropriate and relevant; (b) Develop financial measures, and other policies and tools, to promote activities to reduce the threat of invasive alien species; (c) Integrate national strategies and action plans that address the threats of invasive alien species, into national biodiversity policies, strategies and action plans, and into sectoral and cross-sectoral policies, strategies and plans, taking into account the ecosystem approach;	Added: When necessary, develop recommendations and strategies to take account of effects of alien species on populations and naturally occurring genetic diversity
		Added under “Other Options”: Urges the Global Invasive Species Programme and other relevant organizations to evaluate known and potential pathways for the introduction of invasive alien species and identify opportunities to minimize incursions and manage risks, and: (a) Provide advice to Governments and organizations on actions to be taken at national and regional levels; and (b) Provide recommendations to the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting on actions to be taken at the international level
	(c) Assessment, information and tools	Fully adopted at COP 6 in decision VI/23 paras 24 with addition after (i): The use of the traditional knowledge of indigenous and local communities in the development and implementation of measures to address invasive alien species, in accordance with Article 8(j) of the Convention

SBSTTA meeting	SBSTTA recommendation	Corresponding decision of the Conference of the Parties
	22. Decides that the clearing-house mechanism will be used to facilitate scientific and technical cooperation on the topics listed under paragraph 21 above, in order to enhance the ability of the clearing-house mechanism to promote and facilitate scientific and technical cooperation, and invites the Executive Secretary to explore further with the Global Invasive Species Programme the potential for the latter to be an international thematic focal point for the clearing-house mechanism, in accordance with annex II (c) of decision V/14;	Adopted at COP 6 decision VI/23 para.25 with modification : Decides that the CHM will be used to facilitate scientific and technical cooperation on the topics listed under paragraph 24 above, in order to enhance the ability of the clearing-house mechanism to promote and facilitate scientific and technical cooperation, and welcomes the GISP as an international thematic focal point for alien species under the clearing-house mechanism, and calls on Parties, countries and relevant organizations to contribute to the creation and maintenance of the global information network, in particular to: (a) Ensure effective international cooperation and expertise sharing; (b) Provide information to assist countries to perform effective risk analysis; (c) Provide information on potential pathway of alien invasive species; and (d) Provide support for management and control efforts, particularly for locating technical support for rapid response activities;
	23. Requests the Executive Secretary in cooperation with the Global Invasive Species Programme and other relevant organizations to compile information on topics listed under paragraph 21 above, in collaboration with relevant organizations;	Adopted in decision VI/23 para. 26 with modification (addition) : Requests the ES in cooperation with the GISP and other relevant organizations to: (a) Compile information on topics listed in paragraph 24 above, in collaboration with relevant organizations; (b) Identify the key scientific, technical and public awareness impediments to implementation of priority actions at the national and regional levels; (c) Develop, in partnership with relevant Parties, countries and relevant organizations, solutions to those impediments; (d) Disseminate those solutions to Parties and regional organizations; and (e) Develop a joint POW through the GISP partnership network among the CBD, the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971), the IMO, the International Plant Protection Convention and other relevant bodies;
SBSTTA 7	Rec. VII/5: Sustainable tourism	Adopted in COP 6 decision VI/14 with addition: Gather and compile existing case-studies on the implementation of the guidelines and make them available to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice for its consideration at a meeting prior to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
	Rec. VII/6: Forest biological diversity	Reflected in COP 6 decision VI/22
	f) Urges Parties and other governments to incorporate relevant objectives and related activities of the programme of work into their national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national forest programmes;	Activities implemented domestically by Parties will be prioritized based on country and regionally specific needs, national determination, legislation, circumstances and priorities concerning forest-related issues, and their national forest and biodiversity strategies (decision VI/22 para.11)
	Inter-sessional work] 2. Requests the Executive Secretary, drawing upon the work of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Forest Biological Diversity and seeking comments from Parties, the	Expanded POW: COP underlined the sovereign rights and responsibilities of countries over their forests and the biodiversity within

SBSTTA meeting	SBSTTA recommendation	Corresponding decision of the Conference of the Parties
	Bureau and members of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group, to prepare a report for consideration by Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting identifying:	them.
	(a) Elements in the work programme adopted by decision IV/7 of relevance to the expanded work programme, and how these may be incorporated in the expanded programme of work, also taking into account multi-year programme of work and plan of action of the United Nations Forum on Forests;	Reflected in decision VI/22 paras.11-12: Recognizes that Parties should implement the expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity in the context of their national priorities and needs. Activities implemented domestically by Parties will be prioritized based on country and regionally specific needs, national determination, legislation, circumstances and priorities concerning forest-related issues, and their national forest and biodiversity strategies. Inclusion of an activity in the work programme does not mean relevance of that activity to all Parties; Invites Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to take note of the information pertaining to potential actors, timeframes, performance measures and indicators of progress contained in the note by the Executive Secretary on the subject.
	Rec. VII/7: Agricultural biodiversity	Reflected at COP 6 decision VI/5
	(f) Adopts a format for the thematic report on agricultural biodiversity, on the basis of a proposal to be prepared by the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Bureau of Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, containing an approach that is simple and straightforward to use;	Partially adopted - Requested the ES at COP 6 decision VI/5 para.5 to prepare a draft format for the thematic report for consideration at COP 7. Recommendation modified taking into account that format should be adopted at COP-7 and analysis should be done in the framework of the 3 rd national report and the in-depth review of POW in Agriculture at COP-8 <u>Decision adopted:</u> Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare a draft format for the thematic report on agricultural biodiversity, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh session. (VI/5 para. 5)
	Underlines the need for countries to be able to participate fully in the preparatory process for the first report on the state of world's animal genetic resources, and implement follow-up actions identified through the process;	Adopted at COP 6 in decision VI/5 para.16 with additions: “Invites Parties, and other Governments, the financial mechanism and funding organizations to provide adequate and timely support to enable countries, especially developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition, and in particular least developed countries and small islands developing States, to fully participate [...]”
	(e) Requests the Executive Secretary to develop cooperation with the Secretariat of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture acting as the Interim Committee for the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and, upon its establishment, with the Secretariat of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture;	Reflected in decision VI/6 para. 6 with modifications: Requests the ES to convey the present decision to the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture acting as the Interim Committee for the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.
SBSTTA meeting	SBSTTA recommendation	Corresponding decision of the Conference of the Parties

	<p>Rec. VII/13: Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO)</p>	
	<p>Recommends that the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting: (a) Commends the Executive Secretary for the publication of the Global Biodiversity Outlook;</p>	<p>Welcomed at COP 6 in decision VI/25 para.6 with additions: Welcomes the publication of the Global Biodiversity Outlook and decides that the Global Biodiversity Outlook should continue to be prepared as a periodic report on biological diversity and implementation of the Convention, and be made available in all official United Nations languages</p>
