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SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

Eleventh meeting

Montreal, 28 November - 2 December 2005

Item 6.3 of the provisional agenda*

PREPARATION FOR THE TWELFTH AND THIRTEENTH MEETINGS OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

Draft provisional agendas

Note by the Executive Secretary

1. The agendas of the meetings of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) comprise three groups of items:

- (a) Organizational and reporting matters;
- (b) Substantive issues; and
- (c) Final matters.

2. “Organizational and reporting matters” (i.e., opening of the meeting, organizational matters and progress report on the implementation of the programmes of work of the Convention) and “Final matters” (i.e., preparations for the (two) following meeting(s) of SBSTTA, adoption of the report; and closure of the meeting) are standing items on SBSTTA agendas.

3. Substantive issues are placed on the agenda in response to decisions of the Conference of the Parties, pursuant to Article 25 of the Convention. For the twelfth and thirteenth meetings of SBSTTA, the substantive issues will include items to be considered as a result of requests made by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh and eighth meetings. Based on the recommendations of the Open-ended Inter-Sessional Meeting on the Multi-Year Programme of Work of the Conference of the Parties up to 2010, held in Montreal in March 2003 and following the adoption by the Conference of the Parties of its multi-year programme of work until 2010 (decision VII/31), topics that SBSTTA should address under the umbrella of “Substantive issues” can be grouped in a flexible manner under:

- (a) Items for in-depth review;
- (b) Strategic issues for evaluating progress or supporting implementation:

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- (i) Review of progress in implementation of the Strategic Plan, including the 2010 biodiversity target, and contributions to achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;
- (ii) Refining mechanisms to support implementation; and
- (c) Other scientific and technical issues as determined by the Conference of the Parties.

4. Without prejudging the decision of the Conference of the Parties at its eighth meeting, the present note was prepared to list the substantive items identified in previous decisions of the Conference of the Parties for consideration prior to its ninth meeting to be held in 2008.

Items for in-depth review

5. Items for in-depth review at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in 2008 are listed in decision VII/31. The proposed sequence for their consideration was set out in a note prepared by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/13) in consultation with the SBSTTA Bureau for the ninth meeting of the Subsidiary Body, as follows:

- (a) For the twelfth meeting of SBSTTA:
 - (i) Ecosystem approach;
 - (ii) Invasive alien species;
 - (iii) Incentive measures;
- (b) For the thirteenth meeting of SBSTTA:
 - (i) Agricultural biodiversity;
 - (ii) Forest biodiversity;
 - (iii) Global Strategy for Plant Conservation.

Strategic issues for evaluating progress or supporting implementation

6. As proposed in the above-mentioned note by the Executive Secretary, the two elements of “Strategic issues for evaluating progress or supporting implementation” (see paras. 3 (b) (i) and (b) (ii) above) could be considered at alternate meetings of SBSTTA. For example, the “Review of progress in implementation of the Strategic Plan, including the 2010 biodiversity target, and contributions to achievement of the Millennium Development Goals” could be taken up at the twelfth meeting and “Refining mechanisms to support implementation” could be considered at the thirteenth meeting.

7. Under “Review of progress in implementation of the Strategic Plan, including the 2010 biodiversity target and contributions towards achievement of the Millennium Development Goals”, SBSTTA would review progress towards global targets, consider related measures such as monitoring and indicators, and evaluate changes in the status and trends of biodiversity.^{1/} The Subsidiary Body may be requested by the Conference of the Parties to contribute to the in-depth review of the implementation of goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan, recommended by the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention in paragraph A 1 (a) of its recommendation 1/1 (UNEP/CBD/COP/8/4, annex I).

8. Under “Refining mechanisms to support implementation”, SBSTTA would consider technical aspects related to the financial mechanism, the clearing-house mechanism, technology transfer (bearing in mind, *inter alia*, activities 2.1.4, 2.3.1 and 3.2.5 to 3.2.12 in the programme of work on technology transfer and technological and scientific cooperation (decision VII/29, annex)) and capacity-building, as well as the effectiveness of SBSTTA recommendations.

^{1/} It should be noted that the changes in the status and trends of biodiversity of specific biomes will also be considered when the corresponding thematic programmes of work are reviewed.

Other scientific and technical issues as determined by the Conference of the Parties.

9. The following tasks were requested by the Conference of the Parties for the consideration of SBSTTA specifically prior to the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, in 2008:

(a) Review of proposals to be elaborated by the Executive Secretary, with the support of members of the global partnership for plant conservation, for a toolkit, including a checklist to assist Parties in integrating the targets into their strategies, plans and programmes (decision VII/10, para. 7). This item would be considered as part of the in-depth review of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (see paragraph 5 (b) above);

(b) Consideration of the assessment to be prepared by the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with Parties and relevant international and regional organisations, on the implementation of the ecosystem approach in light of the experiences gained from the activities under paragraphs 8, 9 and 10 of decision VII/11 on the ecosystem approach, as called for in paragraph 12 of the same decision. This item would be considered as part of the in-depth review of the ecosystem approach (see paragraph 5 (a) above);

(c) Exploration of the applicability to agricultural biodiversity, in particular domesticated species, breeds and varieties, of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity (decision VII/12, annex II) and the development of appropriate recommendations, taking into account the range of use options and management practices covered by the term agricultural biodiversity (decision VII/12, para. 3);

(d) Consideration of information and experiences to be collected by the Executive Secretary on successful efforts made to implement Article 10 of the Convention and, as they are developed, success stories, best practices and lessons learned in the application of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines, including information and experiences on how sustainable use of biodiversity can contribute to the achievement of the target of significantly reducing the rate of biodiversity loss by 2010 (decision VII/12, para. 4);

(e) Consideration of the assessment on peatlands biodiversity and climate change being undertaken by Wetlands International and the Global Environment Center with the support of UNEP-GEF, the Government of Canada, the Netherlands and others (decision VII/15, para. 6).

10. Additionally SBSTTA may wish to consider at its twelfth and thirteenth meetings tasks for which the Conference of the Parties did not specify any timeline, bearing in mind that some of these requests could be considered by SBSTTA when the implementation of the relevant programme of work is being reviewed. These tasks include, *inter alia*:

(a) Further development of technical advice to support the implementation of the programme elements related to sustainable use and to support the work of developing countries in achieving sustainable use of their marine and coastal areas, including in relation to tourism and fishing, considering the advice and support to be developed by the Executive Secretary in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other relevant organizations (decision VII/5, para. 7);

(b) Further development of technical advice related to network design and in particular ecological coherence of networks needed to assist Parties in implementation work, taking into account the mechanisms for developing this advice identified by the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the SBSTTA Bureau (decision VII/5, para. 37);

(c) Provision of scientific and technical advice on the implementation of the programme of work on protected areas (decision VII/28, para. 24), bearing in mind that the Conference of the Parties decided in paragraph 28 of decision VII/28 to assess progress in the implementation of the programme of work on protected areas at each of its meetings until 2010.

Annex

**DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDAS FOR THE TWELFTH AND THIRTEENTH MEETINGS
OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL
ADVICE ^{2/}**

A. Draft provisional agenda for the twelfth meeting

I. ORGANIZATIONAL AND REPORTING MATTERS

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Organizational matters:
 - 2.1. Election of officers;
 - 2.2. Adoption of the agenda;
 - 2.3. Organization of work.
3. Progress report on the implementation of the programmes of work of the Convention.

II. SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

4. In-depth reviews:
 - 4.1. Ecosystem approach;
 - 4.2. Invasive alien species;
 - 4.3. Incentive measures.
5. Strategic issues for evaluating progress or supporting implementation: review of progress in implementation of the Strategic Plan, including the 2010 biodiversity target, and contributions to achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.
6. Other scientific and technical issues as determined by the Conference of the Parties:
 - 6.1. Sustainable use:
 - (a) Exploration of the applicability to agricultural biodiversity of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity (decision VII/12, para. 3);
 - (b) Consideration of information and experiences on successful efforts made to implement Article 10 of the Convention and, success stories, best practices and lessons learned in the application of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines, (decision VII/12, para. 4);
 - 6.2. Climate change: consideration of the assessment on peatlands biodiversity and climate change being undertaken by Wetlands International and the Global Environment Center with the support of UNEP-GEF, the Government of Canada, the Netherlands and others (decision VII/15, para. 6).

III. FINAL MATTERS

7. Preparation for the thirteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice:
 - 7.1. Draft provisional agenda;
 - 7.2. Dates and venue.

^{2/} These draft provisional agendas will be revised in the light of the decisions of the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in 2006

8. Other matters.
9. Adoption of the report.
10. Closure of the meeting.

B. Draft provisional agenda for the thirteenth meeting

I. ORGANIZATIONAL AND REPORTING MATTERS

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Organizational matters:
 - 2.1. Election of officers;
 - 2.2. Adoption of the agenda;
 - 2.3. Organization of work.
3. Progress report on the implementation of the programmes of work of the Convention.

II. SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

4. In-depth review of programmes of work:
 - 4.1. Agricultural biodiversity;
 - 4.2. Forest biodiversity;
 - 4.3. Global Strategy for Plant Conservation.
5. Strategic issues for evaluating progress or supporting implementation: Refining mechanisms to support implementation.
6. Other scientific and technical issues as determined by the Conference of the Parties:
 - 6.1. Marine and coastal biodiversity:
 - (a) Further development of technical advice to support the implementation of the programme elements related to sustainable use and to support the work of developing countries in achieving sustainable use of their marine and coastal areas, including in relation to tourism and fishing (decision VII/5, para. 7);
 - (b) Further development of technical advice related to network design and in particular ecological coherence of networks needed to assist Parties in implementation work (decision VII/5, para. 37);
 - 6.2. Protected areas: assessment of progress in the implementation of the programme of work and provision of scientific and technical advice on the implementation of the programme of work.

III. FINAL MATTERS

7. Preparation for the fourteenth and fifteenth meetings of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice:
 - 7.1. Draft provisional agendas;
 - 7.2. Dates and venues.
8. Other matters.
9. Adoption of the report.
10. Closure of the meeting.