



CBD



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SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

Fourteenth meeting
Nairobi, 10-21 May 2010
Item 4.1.1 of the provisional agenda*

AGRICULTURAL BIODIVERSITY: FOLLOW-UP TO REQUESTS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES IN DECISION IX/1

Draft recommendation submitted by the Co-Chairs of Working Group I

1. The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice *notes* the importance of agricultural biodiversity to the revised Strategic Plan of the Convention for the period beyond 2010.
2. The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice *recommends* that the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties

1. [Welcomes] [Endorses] [Notes] the joint work plan on biodiversity for food and agriculture between the Secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and its Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, contained in the annex to document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/11;
2. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and its Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, on the implementation of the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity and the three international initiatives on: soil biodiversity, pollinators and biodiversity for food and nutrition;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and its Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture on the implementation of the agricultural biodiversity programme of work and *welcomes* the Strategic Plan 2010-2017 for the implementation of the Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOL) approved at the twelfth regular session of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture in 2009. In this context, *welcomes* the periodical publications undertaken and foreseen in the MYPOL for the State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture, and on their different genetic resources components, which will provide a solid technical base for the development of action plans; and *invites* Parties, and other Governments, to take into account the inter-disciplinary and inter-sectoral nature of these

* UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/1.

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publications in their contributions to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on this subject;

4. *Invites* the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture for areas within its mandate to further contribute to the development and implementation of the revised Strategic Plan of the Convention on Biological Diversity for the period beyond 2010 by elaborating targets for agricultural biodiversity, including at the ecosystem and genetic resources levels, and monitoring progress towards them using indicators;

5. *Notes* the importance of the joint work plan between the Secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and its Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, its important contribution to the achievement of Millennium Development Goals 1 and 7, and the opportunities to further enhance the joint work plan in accordance with relevant matters arising from the revised Strategic Plan of the Convention on Biological Diversity for the period beyond 2010, including consideration of matters in relation to targets and indicators of relevance to the programme of work, and relevant matters arising from the Strategic Plan 2010-2017 for the multi-year programme of work (MYPOL) of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture;

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary and *invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and its Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture to work together in their design of the second phase of their joint work plan covering at least until 2017 and to note that this second phase should consider, *inter alia*:

(a) The sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity, particularly underutilized crops, wild relatives of cultivated plants and other potential food sources, to improve human nutrition, to address the impacts of climate change and to contribute to food security;

(b) On-farm, *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation of agricultural biodiversity; in accordance with decision IX/1 adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

(c) Relevant aspects of access and benefit sharing in the context of the international regime on access and benefit sharing under the Convention on Biological Diversity to be [considered][adopted] at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, as well as within the context of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, taking into account existing cooperation between the two secretariats consistent with resolution 18/2009 of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

[(d) Trends on the extent of patents and other intellectual property rights, such as plant variety protection, applied for and granted over plant, animal, [forest] and microbial genetic resources as identified by the Global Assessments of Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;]

(e) Potential actions to promote sustainable biodiversity-related agricultural practices that contribute to biodiversity and ecosystem based carbon sequestration of soils and to conserve and restore organic carbon in soil and biomass;

(f) Inter-linkages between the work of the Convention on Biological Diversity (as per decision IX/2 of the Conference of the Parties and any subsequent relevant decisions) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and its Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, regarding promoting the positive and minimizing the negative impacts of biofuels on biodiversity, including socio-economic and food security aspects related to them, in the form of joint studies and assessments;

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(g) Ways and means to strengthen cooperation to: (i) obtain and consider the views of farmers' and producers' organizations and the views of indigenous and local communities, and (ii) facilitate their effective participation in the deliberations of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and of the Food and Agriculture Organization and its Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and their contributions to the implementation of the work of these bodies;

(h) A strengthened process to identify, indicate and disseminate information to relevant focal points of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and its Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture regarding matters of common interest;

(i)

OPTION 1:

[Promoting the conservation, restoration and the sustainable management of biodiversity-rich agricultural landscapes and high-nature value farmland, such as, but not limited to, Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Sites (GIAHS);]

Comment [David2]: Check Spanish text

OPTION 2

[Promoting, as appropriate, the integration of conservation, restoration and sustainable management, including sustainable production, in agricultural areas with high biodiversity value, such as, but not limited to, high nature value farmland and Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Sites (GIAHS), consistent and in harmony with the Convention on Biological Diversity and other relevant international obligations;]

OPTION 3

[Promoting, as appropriate, the integration of conservation, restoration and sustainable management, including sustainable production, in agricultural areas with [important] [high] biodiversity value, such as, but not limited to, [important] [high] nature value farmland and Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Sites (GIAHS), [and that are identified as contributing to the achievement of global and national targets for protected areas,] consistent and in harmony with the Convention on Biological Diversity and other relevant international obligations];

(j) Promoting public awareness of the importance of agrobiodiversity and its relationship to advancing food security, in the context of production oriented agro-ecosystems, at the global, regional and local levels;

(k) The relevant findings and recommendations of the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development; and their implementation, as appropriate; and

(l) Where appropriate, further exploring possibilities for actions, where necessary, to rehabilitate agriculture on land where agriculture has declined, or ceased, and where the land was degraded as a result, with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities;

7. Recognizes the importance of the processes led by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, such as implementation of the Global Plan of Action on Animal Genetic Resources and updating of the Global Plan of Action on Plant Genetic Resources, which contribute directly to achieving the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, in crop and livestock sectors.

Comment [David3]: Move this

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8. *Invites* Parties to incorporate, as appropriate, relevant elements of the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity into their national biodiversity strategy and action plans as well as into their relevant sectoral policies and plans;

9. *Invites*, Parties and other Governments, as appropriate, to recognize the critical importance of scientific, informal and traditional knowledge systems in the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity;

10. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to strengthen collaboration with the Secretariat of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) to improve collaboration in the implementation of the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity and the Treaty, as appropriate;

11. *Invites* the national focal points of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture to enhance their collaboration;

12. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to provide an expanded progress report on the implementation of the international initiative on soil biodiversity (in addition to information already submitted in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/INF/30) to the Executive Secretary for dissemination through the clearing-house mechanism;

13. *Recognizes* the importance of agricultural biodiversity and scientific and traditional knowledge systems to the achievement of the objectives of the Convention and *recognizes* the lead role of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in supporting the implementation of the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity as well as related traditional knowledge systems, while also *recognizing* the important contributions and roles of other partners in this regard, including those indigenous and local communities;

14. *Noting* the excellent progress made in collaboration between the Executive Secretary and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and that there is considerable benefit from further enhanced cooperation, *requests* the Executive Secretary and *invites* the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations to strengthen their cooperation and *invites* Parties and other Governments to consider, as appropriate and feasible, providing further support to facilitate such enhanced cooperation;

15. *Recognizes* the continuing problems of nutrient loading caused by some agricultural practices (as noted in the in-depth review of the programme of work on inland water ecosystems in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/3), *invites* Parties and other Governments, in accordance with paragraph 40 of decision IX/1 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, to further enhance action on reducing nutrient loading caused by some agricultural practices and to provide further information to the Executive Secretary on the progress made, and *requests* the Executive Secretary to collate this information and to disseminate it through the clearing-house mechanism and other relevant means;

16. *Notes* the inter-connections between agricultural ecosystems and other ecosystems, particularly through land and water use activities, and *invites* Parties to consider the need for strengthened harmony between implementation of relevant elements of the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity and other programmes of work of the Convention, consistent with the ecosystem approach, including at national and, where appropriate, regional levels;

17. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to communicate to the Food and Agriculture Organization and its Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, the information submitted in response to notification 2008-130 of 3 October 2008;

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18. *Expresses its appreciation* to Bioversity International for the secondment of a staff member to assist the Executive Secretary, in particular regarding, *inter alia*, agricultural biodiversity and sustainable use;

19. *Notes* the importance of the issue of sustainable use of biodiversity to the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity and *invites* Parties and *requests* the Executive Secretary to ensure coherence between the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity and Article 10 of the Convention, on sustainable use, noting decision IX/1 paragraph 32, of the Conference of the Parties, relating to agriculture and the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity;

20. *Requests* the Executive Secretary and *invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and Bioversity International, together with other relevant partners, including indigenous and local communities, subject to available resources, to provide further information on the nature of sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity and sustainable agriculture, including building upon information contained in the information note submitted by Bioversity International on sustainable agriculture and the sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity: concepts, trends and challenges (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/INF/34);

Valuing agricultural ecosystems

21. *Welcomes* resolution X.31 of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971) on the subject “Enhancing biodiversity in rice paddies as wetland systems” which notes, *inter alia*, the culture of rice in 114 countries worldwide, that rice paddies (flooded and irrigated fields in which rice is grown) have provided large areas of open water for centuries and that they support a high level of rice associated biodiversity important ~~for~~ sustaining rice-paddy ecosystems, as well as providing many other ecosystem services; recognises the relevance of resolution X.31 of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands to the implementation of the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity and invites relevant Parties, as appropriate, to fully implement this resolution; and

Comment [David4]: grammar

22. *Recognizes* the importance of agroecosystems, in particular rice-paddy systems, for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and *invites* the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, subject to resources, and in consultation with the Executive Secretary and relevant partners including indigenous and local communities, to undertake further studies on the valuation of the biodiversity and ecosystem services provided by agricultural ecosystems, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, in order to further support policy-relevant guidance to Parties for consideration by the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
