

CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/WG.1/CRP.7
18 May 2010

ENGLISH ONLY

SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

Fourteenth meeting
Nairobi, 10-21 May 2010
Agenda item 4.1.2*

AGRICULTURAL BIODIVERSITY - BIOFUELS AND BIODIVERSITY: CONSIDERATION OF WAYS AND MEANS TO PROMOTE THE POSITIVE AND MINIMIZE THE NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF THE PRODUCTION AND USE OF BIOFUELS ON BIODIVERSITY

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

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice *recommends* that the Conference of the Parties may wish to adopt a recommendation along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Expresses its gratitude* to the European Union for its financial contribution towards the regional workshops for Latin America and the Caribbean, and Asia and the Pacific, and to the Government of Germany for the regional workshop for Africa, on ways and means to promote the positive and minimize the negative impacts of biofuel production and use on biodiversity, to the Governments of Brazil, Thailand and Ghana for hosting these workshops and to the Government of Brazil for providing Spanish interpretation to facilitate active participation of the entire region;

2. [*Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations and stakeholders to examine, and as appropriate, to further develop, with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, voluntary conceptual frameworks for ways and means to minimize the negative and maximize the positive impact of biofuel production and use developed by the three regional workshops; in further developing the conceptual framework, an effort should be made to focus the framework on biofuels and biodiversity, socio-economic issues should be addressed only as they pertain to biodiversity as was decided by the ninth meeting of the Convention of the Parties in decision XI/2;]

3. *Urges* Parties and other Governments, in collaboration with indigenous and local communities and relevant organizations, when carrying out assessments of biofuel operations to ensure land rights, as appropriate and subject to national legislation, as well as the sustainable agricultural practices and food security of indigenous peoples and local communities are respected and promoted, and that steps are taken to redress any negative impacts on these communities by the production and use of biofuels; .

4. [*Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to financial resources, to develop, in collaboration with competent partner organizations and relevant processes, such as, *inter alia* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Panel for Sustainable Resource Management, the Roundtable on Sustainable Biofuels, the Global Bio-Energy Partnership, a toolkit, including guidance on available standards and methodologies to assess direct and indirect effects and impacts on biodiversity, to further assist Parties, the business sector and relevant stakeholders in applying appropriate ways and means to promote biofuel production and consumption that is sustainable in relation to biodiversity, building on decisions taken and guidance developed by the Convention, building upon

* UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/1.

existing mechanisms and best practice and disseminate it through the clearing house mechanism and other relevant means;]

5. [ALTERNATE] *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to financial resources, to contribute to ongoing work of competent partner organizations and relevant processes, such as, *inter alia*, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, The International Standards Organization, APEC and IEA, and roundtables, such as the Round Table on Sustainable Biofuels and the Global Bio-Energy Partnership, where this reduces duplication and is consistent with the mandates of both the CBD and collaborating organisations, to develop frameworks and policies supporting the positive and mitigating the negative effects on biodiversity and ecosystems of biomass for energy production and use. The work of the Executive Secretary should provide input and information to these other processes, add maximum value and avoid duplication by giving clarity on:

(a) Identification of no-go areas, such as biodiverse rich areas, wetlands and grassland, and areas which are important as carbon stores such as peatlands and primary forests;

(b) Identify areas and ecosystems and degraded lands that could be used in a sustainable way for the production of biomass for energy bearing in mind other alternatives uses for and demands on such ecosystems and lands;

(c) Effective protection of areas important for biodiversity based on national and relevant international legislation;

(d) Assist in the further development of definitions in support of the development of policy measures for sustainable production and use of bio-energy related to biodiversity and ecosystems;

(e) To develop and implement land- and water-use planning policies that minimize negative impacts on biological diversity, in particular by addressing direct and indirect land- and water-use change affecting areas of high values for biodiversity;

(f) Identify ways and means how second and third generation biomass for energy can be applied in a way that sustainable production and use related to biodiversity and ecosystems can be stimulated;

to further assist Parties and relevant stakeholders in applying appropriate ways and means to promote biomass for energy production and use production that is sustainable in relation to biodiversity and ecosystems; and *invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to submit relevant information to support this activity;

6. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organisations to submit to the Executive Secretary experiences and results from biodiversity assessments related to the production and use of biofuels, and *requests* the Executive Secretary to make such experiences and results available to Parties through the clearing-house mechanism;

7. *Recognizes* the need to include biofuel concerns in national plans, such as national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) and national development plans and *invites* Parties to report on their experiences in minimizing the negative and maximizing the positive impacts of biofuels as part of their fifth national reports;

8. *Invites* Parties to develop and implement policies that minimize negative impacts on biological diversity, in particular by assessing both direct and indirect effects and impacts on biodiversity, as part of their policy frameworks for the sustainable production and use of biofuels;

9. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations:
 - (a) To develop inventories of areas of high biodiversity value to support policy-makers in minimising the negative impacts of biofuel production on biodiversity;
 - (b) To ensure that supportive measures to promote the positive and minimize the negative impacts of the production and use of biofuels on biodiversity, as a contribution to the achievement of the revised Strategic Plan of the Convention beyond 2010;
 - (c) To develop and use technologies that promote the positive and minimise the negative impacts of biofuel production and use on biodiversity;
10. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to support the development of research programmes to study the positive and negative impacts of the production and use of biofuels on biodiversity;
11. *Encourages* Parties and other Governments to develop and implement land-use planning policies that minimize negative impacts on biological diversity, in particular by addressing direct and indirect land use change affecting areas of high value for biodiversity, as part of their policy frameworks for the sustainable production and use of biofuels;
12. [*Invites* relevant organizations and donor agencies to provide technical and financial support to developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, and countries with economies in transition, to develop policy frameworks for the sustainable production and use of biofuels including land-use planning policies that minimize negative impacts on biological diversity;]
13. *Encourages* Parties and other Governments to apply the biodiversity-inclusive Strategic Environment Assessment guidelines (in accordance with decision VIII/28), in connection with the sustainable production and use of biofuels;
14. *Urges* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to ensure that supportive measures are in place to promote the positive and minimize the negative impacts of the production and use of biofuels on biodiversity;
15. *Encourages* Parties and other Governments to develop and use technologies which promote the positive and minimise the negative impacts of biofuel production and use on biodiversity, inter alia by reducing the natural resources footprint;
16. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to resources, in collaboration with the Roundtable on Sustainable Biofuels (RSB), to further develop the current 12 principles for a certification system for biofuel production for subsequent consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice prior to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
17. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to address both direct and indirect impacts that the production and use of biofuels might have on biodiversity, in particular inland waters biodiversity, on the services they provide and on indigenous and local communities;
18. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue collaboration with FAO, GBEP and other relevant organizations and initiatives on the subject of biofuels in order to achieve due consideration of biodiversity concerns and to report back on these activities to a meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice prior to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

19. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to compile information on gaps in available standards and methodologies for the promotion of sustainable biofuel production as identified in the development of the toolkit and bring it to the attention of relevant organizations and processes and report a meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice prior to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

20. *Recognizes* that given the scientific uncertainty that exists, and the recent information that has emerged, significant concern surrounds the potential intended and unintended impacts of biofuels on biodiversity, socio-economic conditions, indigenous peoples and local communities and *reaffirms* that the precautionary principle is very important where there is limited knowledge on biofuel production (decision IX/2, para. 3c(i));

21. *Also recognizes* that adequate systems for the continuous monitoring of the social, economic and environmental impacts of biofuel production are needed to generate information that can inform decision making on biofuels;

22. *Further recognizes* the threats to biodiversity from the use of invasive alien species in biofuels production and *urges* Parties and other Governments to implement the programme of work on invasive alien species with regard to biofuel production;
